

AIDS hits the federal jackpot
House Appropriations subcommittee
adds \$150 million more in AIDS funding.
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Funny business
Geek Grrrl has a ball
with fun gay websites.
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Living dolls
Jacqueline Susann's
campsterpiece returns.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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San Diego serial killer suspect sought in Versace murder

by Mike Salinas

Nobody's safe in this." So says Miami FBI agent Paul Phillips when discussing suspected serial killer Andrew Phillip Cunanan, the prime suspect in the shooting death of clothing designer Gianni Versace.

Authorities believe it was Cunanan who fired two bullets into the back of the internationally famous designer's head the morning of Tuesday, July 15. Versace was returning from breakfast when the assailant opened fire on the steps of his Miami Beach mansion, then calmly walked away.

Police and FBI officials named Cunanan as the only suspect in the murder within hours of the shooting. The 27-year-old openly gay Filipino-American had already been connected to four prior murders on a

spree that began April 27, landing him on the FBI's Top 10 Most Wanted fugitives list.

Jim Chambliss of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement said there is no information that Versace knew Cunanan previously, although there have been reports the two met at a San Francisco Opera opening a few years ago. Phillips, the FBI special agent in charge, would not say if Cunanan had a relationship with Versace, noting only that the suspect has allegedly killed both those he had known and random strangers.

Cunanan, described by acquaintances as glamorous and well-spoken — and by his mother as a "high-priced gay prostitute" — is implicated in the killings of 33-year-old David Madson of Minneapolis, 72-year-old Chicago millionaire Lee Miglin, 28-year-old Joseph Trail of Bloomington, Minnesota, and 45-year-old William Reese of Bridgeton, New Jersey. Cunanan allegedly stole the ve-

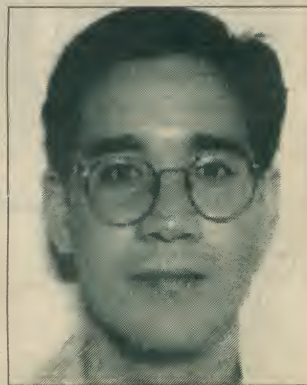
hicles of Miglin, who was also apparently tortured before his death, and Reese.

Investigators say they suspected immediately that Cunanan might have been involved in Versace's slaying. They were convinced he was the primary suspect when law enforcement officials found Reese's red pickup truck near the Versace home. Chicago TV station WLS-TV reported that the license plates on the vehicle had been stolen within the last two months from Florence, South Carolina.

International effort

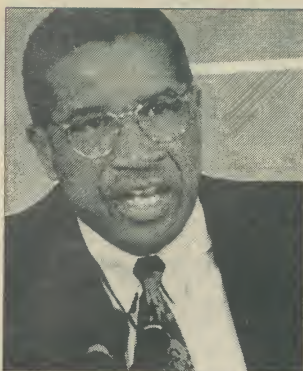
Authorities are conducting a nationwide manhunt for the suspect, which has been joined by law enforcement officials on at least one other continent. The Philippines' National Bureau of Investigation says it is also cooperating with international police to

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On the loose: Andrew Cunanan

AIDS deaths down, problems up



APLA's James Loyce Jr.

by Bob Roehr

A"State of AIDS Forum" held Monday, July 14 at the National Press Club brought the epidemic back into the public spotlight to look at the problems that remain in light of treatment breakthroughs. While the quick headline was more data showing the impact of protease inhibitors in reducing the death rate from AIDS, the underlying issue was that of money to pay for the drugs.

Death from AIDS decreased 19 percent in the first three quarters of 1996 as compared to the previous year, according to figures released by Helene Gayle MD, director of the National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention at the CDC. This national picture confirms and lags behind data reported in January from New York City.

The new cases of AIDS broke down to 40 percent gay, 25 percent injection drug users, 13 percent heterosexual, and smaller vectors of transmission. Women are now 20 percent of newly reported cases, and for the first time African-Americans surpassed whites in gross numbers of new cases. Estimates are of at least 40,000 new infections each year.

Gayle was distressed that the decline in AIDS deaths "was not equal across all demographic groups." For whites the decline was 28 percent, for Hispanics 16 percent, and for African-Americans only 10 percent. She hoped that expanded access to therapy by the poor would begin to equalize those rates.

James Loyce, Jr., executive director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, offered an explanation based on APLA's client survey conducted last November. People of color were "two to three times less knowledgeable of protease inhibitors" than were white males.

African-Americans were 1.4 times, and non-English speakers 2.4 times less likely to be on protease inhibitors. Lower levels of education and income reinforced these patterns.

Taxing problem

Winnie Fairchild, a PWA from Washington, DC, spoke of protease inhibitors boosting her T-cells from 146 to 388. But "just last month I had a new doctor who wanted to take me off because the medication was too expensive for Medicaid to pay for."

"He said it was not his policy to tax the public."

"I told him, it was not my policy to die for them either."

According to Christine Lubinski, lobbyist with the AIDS Action Council — the chief sponsor of the Forum — expanding Medicaid eligibility "could contribute to reducing the

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McDonalds and gay families: Almost Golden Arch-enemies

by Shan Schwartz

McDonalds came out last week with egg on its face, narrowly escaping a serious discrimination charge from a gay family organization.

The conflict was between a corporate-owned McDonalds restaurant in Northampton, Massachusetts, and a Northampton organization called Valuable Families, comprised of lesbian, gay, and bisexual parents, their children, and friends.

Jeannie Dewey, board member of Valu-

able Families, said McDonalds had solicited Valuable Families and many other community organizations in Northampton to participate in "Food, Folks and Fundraising." In this event, organization members help staff the restaurant and can distribute information from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on a weekday evening. In return, McDonalds provides the group with 25% of the sales from the time the organization is working.

"It's part of [McDonalds'] effort to get the community members more familiar with McDonalds, and for McDonalds to become more familiar with their community,"

Dewey said.

Dewey said that Valuable Families chose to participate after seeing the successful events that other community groups had with McDonalds.

But after the date had been set and preparations were underway, Dewey said she was contacted by a McDonalds manager who told her he had to meet with her immediately.

"In this meeting, he said, 'I cannot allow you to have this event here, because this is too controversial,'" Dewey said. "Basically,

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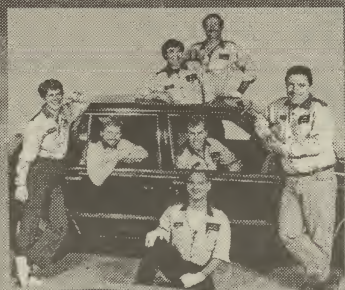
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Good vibrations



The Attic, a performance group from Philadelphia, demonstrated how to use a common household appliance — a vibrator — to the July 12 opening plenary of the Young, Loud and Proud Youth Leadership Conference. Nearly 500 queer youth attended the skills-building conference, which focused on leadership experiences.

Board of Education maintains commitment to queer youth

by Cynthia Laird

Last year's resolution by the San Francisco Board of Education to develop a plan to ensure the safety of queer youth has not been relegated to the back burner of bureaucracy; last month the board was given a presentation of the implementation plan for that resolution, and it promises to be an ongoing process, board member Dr. Juanita Owens told the B.A.R.

The resolution was introduced by board member Angie Fa last year, and approved by the board last November, before Owens won her seat on the board. During her campaign and since taking office this year, Owens has made implementation of the plan one of her top priorities. She has established an advisory committee and met with top district administrators, including Superintendent Bill Rojas.

Fa's resolution was a result of meetings held last year by the city's Human Rights Commission and the Youth Commission. The school board heard the presentation June 24.

"It is imperative that this board facilitate the proper plan and supervision which will improve the quality of life for queer youth in our schools. Queer-identified or supportive instructors

must be available for support and counseling, programs must be in place to reinforce self-worth and self-esteem, and all teachers and students must learn the importance of respect and acceptance of diversity in all of its forms," Owens said.

The board's resolution calls for a number of things, among them, taking steps to increase accountability of each school with regard to having a safe environment for queer youth, staff, teachers, and administrators. Other things called for include the district's support of queer student groups and queer-heterosexual student alliances, and a method for students, parents, counselors, and teachers to address queer youth issues.

One of the key components, Owens said, is funding for staff development relating to queer youth concerns. Community United Against Violence (CUAV) has expressed interest in contracting for this aspect of the plan, she added.

Although Owens is hopeful at least part of the plan can start this fall, she said that realistically, things might not get underway until next spring.

"My responsibility as a board member is to set the tone," said Owens. "The superintendent has been quite receptive to this."

Additional meetings of the advisory committee are expected to

take place starting next month to move forward with the plan's implementation. Owens does not have a proposed budget yet, but said that Rojas and other district administrators are in the process of developing one.

"This will be developed over a period of time and will be ongoing," Owens told the B.A.R., adding queer youth should be involved in the implementation process. She also emphasized that the plan, while specifying queer youth, will ultimately benefit all students in San Francisco public schools.

Dusty Araujo, of the Lesbian and Gay Parents Association, agreed. "This plan helps all children," said Araujo. "It is primarily about the human right to be safe emotionally, physically, and mentally."

A recommended timeline lists many components of the plan. Broad categories include: increasing interagency collaboration, counseling and support services, curriculum development, professional development, and establishing a safe and supportive environment. ▼

People interested in getting more information or in attending advisory committee meetings can call Owens at the district office, (415) 241-6493.

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by Dennis Conkin

Robinson appeared in court Wednesday, July 16 for a prelimi-

Robinson's complaint is the subject of a motion to dismiss filed by attorney Marty Courson of Welch, Olrich and Mori, a local law firm. The federal court mo-

"Robinson's alleged fear is unfounded. With testing methods available in 1997, HIV can be detected with about 100 percent accuracy after six months. Only by the most remote of possibilities will someone who tests negative after such a six-month interval develop AIDS as a result of the questioned exposure," Courson said. ▼

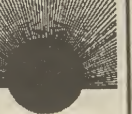
by Dennis Conkin

The bashing occurred after the defendants allegedly drove up in a 1984 Nissan Sentra to a group of

"Conviction on the robbery charge would be a strike. Each one of these incidents was totally unprovoked," said Assistant District Attorney Maria Bee, who said she believes the gay-bashing may have

A pre-trial conference is scheduled for Mon., July 28. ▼

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Wanted: medicine over morals

In the old days it was leeches. Today it's finger-wagging.

Every generation has its own medical crises, and its own way of dealing with them. Some have been wise, and some (like the practice of attaching leeches to patients to suck out their bad "humors") have been idiotic. Here in San Francisco in the era of AIDS, health officials long ago instituted the überidiotic practice of trying to moralize our bad humors and habits out of us.

The good news about AIDS caseloads coming down across the country (including here in the Bay Area) shows that medical science is the correct way to deal with our current health crisis. What the evidence shows quite clearly is that the Bay Area's rate of new cases is declining exactly in step with those in other parts of the country.

In other words, the closing of the bathhouses has had no effect, and will have no effect, on our AIDS rate. All it does is put San Francisco behind the rest of the country in the area of civil rights.

For all the moralizing and finger-wagging of city officials who believe that our baths should stay closed (and, tacitly, that we shouldn't be having sex in any other kind of enclosed private spaces, either), we are unable to see a single positive result. As many people have pointed out, the bathhouse closures have just made it impossible to put condoms directly beside a few dozen beds where gay men were likely to be having sex.

Now that Dr. Mitch Katz has been named interim health director in San Francisco, he has the power and authority to recognize these self-evident truths and put an end to the bathhouse closures once and for all. Because of the odd wording of the original ban on the baths, only someone in his current position can restore the civil rights that were taken away, and acknowledge that science is a better weapon against AIDS than finger-wagging.

There are many people both in and out of our city government (and we suspect Katz is among them) who will continue to argue that the ban is justified even if only one case of HIV transmission is avoided. That may sound laudable, but upon examination it just doesn't meet the criteria for sensible policy, as far as we're concerned. Banning airplanes would avoid one more case of hijacking; banning mop buckets

would prevent at least one case of infant drowning; banning ... well, you get the idea.

What the Health Department can do to prevent more HIV transmission is bring science – the same thing that's working everywhere else – into the Bay Area with a concentrated effort we have not yet seen.

We need access to anti-HIV lubricants. Desperately.

There is no substance yet recognized as an effective microbicide lube, although several are being tested throughout the world. One such test (specifically testing an anti-HIV gel for anal sex) was devised by Bay Area minds – but was instituted in Seattle rather than in San Francisco.

We're happy for the fortunate gay men in Seattle, but we really don't want to have to move there to be part of a promising new development in HIV risk reduction.

Certainly if our health "experts" can justify the trashing of civil liberties in the name of perhaps-only-one-case-averted, they can institute a full-scale study and distribution of microbicide lube. That should do more to rid us of our bad humor than all the finger-wagging and moralizing in

the world.

Speaking of people who are charged with getting a handle on the AIDS crisis, the Bay Area Reporter would like to welcome Carmen Portillo to the Mayor's HIV Planning Council. Portillo isn't a newcomer to the council – in fact, she hasn't been a corner at all, which is precisely the problem.

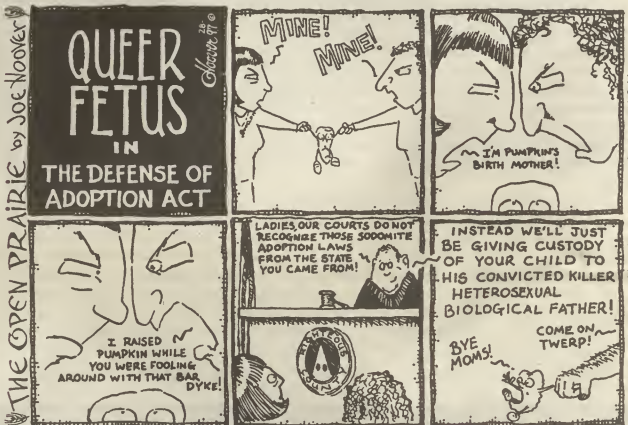
When Portillo attended the council meeting on Monday it was the first meeting she has attended since May 19. Not only that, she arrived so late – about an hour late, specifically – she missed the council's extremely important vote by about ten minutes.

Portillo's spotty attendance was discussed by the membership committee in May, after which they recommended she be removed. Portillo spoke on her own behalf at that meeting, expressing her interest in wanting to stay on the council and promising to attend future meetings.

Another quarter has ended since her last appearance, and she may once again be in violation of the membership policy. Attending the meeting Monday was a good start, but not good enough. ▼



Editorial



Snatch and grab problems at Dyke March: Were you there?

by Laura Weide, Ann Whidden,
Romy Fain, Sarah Grey Thompson

We were the group in the Dyke March with the pussy-on-fire dykes-from-hell-chariot float.

(There was a great Jane Cleland photo of our vehicle on page 10 of the July 3rd issue of the B.A.R.) For those who didn't see it, we had a large, engorged, flaming pussy on the back of a VW bug, flames shooting off the sides, stars, flaming streamers, sparkles and a gang of women in various states of undress wielding an array of weaponry and torches marching alongside and on the top and hood of the car. We loved the response from the crowd – our visual seemed to create a space for straight-up snatch worship!

Then a woman jumped up on the back of the car – she mugged it up with our friend for the photo, and sprawled on the trunk with another woman, where she remained in spite of taps on the shoulder and requests to get off the float. Finally she got off the car – but the combo of a big vulva and an automobile must have triggered her sexist brain into thinking, "I own this." She jumped on the front of the car, blocking the driver, and was forced off by the women sitting on the front. This frat boy in lesbian body went ballistic: she grabbed the legs of the woman sitting on the hood and yanked her off the car

and onto the ground, and grabbed another woman by the neck and hair.

Finally, her friends pulled her away.

But while this occurred in a sea of dykes, no one acted in our support. We wonder if we had been dressed as "nice girls," would women have been more quick to intervene? Did our fierce sex-positive stance make women question who was "at fault?"

There were two women in the sea of thousands who did respond, and whose courageous impulse of defense we want to recognize. As we turned the corner of Valencia Street, a drunk guy came stumbling towards the back of the car – a woman in the crowd stepped up and made him back off. Later, as we headed back up 18th

Street, the lesbian batterer spotted us from the sidelines. She hurled insults, she hurled them back. Half a block away, she started marching towards our vehicle for round two. It was clear to one woman what was up, and when she put her body in the brute's way, the batterer hit her and knocked her to the ground. We hope you are okay, and thank you for bravely defending us. We hope that more women take action against the violence which occurs in our own community.

Beyond the particularities of this inci-

dent is the silence that continues around the issue of lesbian battery. To confront lesbian battery is to challenge two dangerously wrong assumptions: 1) Women who have sex with women love women, and 2) Violence against women is solely perpetrated by men.

Working to fight sexism within our own community should not in any way diminish the fact that the overwhelming problem of violence against women is perpetrated by men. But we need to contend with the reality – the mindset that disrespects women's autonomy, controls women through violence, and assumes that "no" means "yes" is not solely a male purview.

Whether you, reader, are the batterer; or recognize your friend as the batterer, call New Leaf's Overcoming Violent Behavior Group (415-626-7000) or the Next Door Program in the South Bay (408-279-2962). Women Inc., an organization dedicated to fighting domestic violence, also has referrals for women who batter women (415-864-4722).

If you, reader, are someone who witnessed any of the violence, we urge you to consider why you didn't come forward to defend the women who were being assaulted. ▼

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Less talk at Pride celebration

[The following is an open letter to the SFLGBT Celebration Committee.]

I had a great time at the Parade/Celebration and don't want to diminish your efforts, however I believe some input might help. There are many of us who have neither the stomach nor time for board meetings, yet who have valid suggestions. You should make it easier for community members to provide input. A survey presented through the local queer press would provide that input. You might also get some from the entertainers who have performed at this event. And what a nice segue into my own suggestions.

Number One: Less Talk and More Entertainment. It's supposed to be a celebration! More than half the stage time went to speakers, and while the crowd was supportive, I got the feeling many would have preferred dancing to listening. Sure, there's lots of important stuff to say, but is this a party or a rally? Finally, there's a lot of talent in the queer community, and it's a shame only a few were permitted to perform. (We were grateful to be included. Thank you, Dominique and Tamara!)

Suggestion Two: Don't schedule performers to go on during the height of the parade. It's extremely demoralizing to an artist who is playing, singing and/or dancing her/his heart out for an audience of two dozen, especially when they're not being paid, and even basic expenses aren't covered.

Suggestion Three: Lose the Community Stage. We performed on this stage during the peak of Saturday afternoon (2:45 p.m.) to a roaring crowd of about thirty. Even at 3 p.m. on Sunday, it was still relatively dead. This is a waste of Celebration money and, again, it's demoralizing.

And a personal note: While I realize the transgender community is small and many of our members are deeply closeted or have other reasons for not marching, we do not appreciate being buried way back in the parade behind all of the commercial/business concerns that preceded us again this year. It's nice we're included in the LGBT name, but how about some tangible respect? Remember who started Stonewall.

Christine Beatty
San Francisco

Parade ordeal

Why is it that San Francisco can turn a simple 2 1/2 hour parade into a 5-hour ordeal?

After attending the Gay Pride Parade again this year, I am still amazed that the city insists on letting traffic cross Market Street during the parade. Look what they do for the Bay to Breakers race. Streets are closed down for the duration of that event, why don't they do the same for this event, one that does more for the city than that race.

All the city would have to do is move the parade to a ten o'clock start and tell the motorists to avoid the whole area until after the parade was finished. Put in the newspapers alternate ways to get to the highways and post signs on streets leading into Market Street. This way the city would not have to have as many police officers around, the participants would not have to stop every 15 minutes to let traffic through, and motorists wouldn't have to sit in stopped traffic until they were able to cross Market Street.

Also, it would be nice to have the Grand Marshals of the parade drive by in the beginning of the parade, like all other parades, not a few hours into it. And put all the activist agendas throughout the parade, and not all in the beginning.

It's a great parade, but something really needs to be done to avoid these problems next year.

Thomas Fudacz
Byron, CA

Geography lesson

For the record, Fairfield is not in the East Bay, far from it. It's deep into the North Bay.

P.S. San Jose is also not in the East Bay.

Armand Boulay
Berkeley, CA

[Editor's note: Well, actually, if Fairfield is too far north to be East Bay, it is also too far east to be North Bay. Perhaps "Central Valley" would have been the better phrase. But thanks for the letter; it's always nice to hear from our South Bay readers.]

Free guidelines

It's important for as many people as possible to get the new federal HIV treatment guidelines to see what's the new standard of care. For free copies, call either 1-800-448-0440, or 1-800-458-5231. To discuss HIV treatment, call Project Inform at 558-9051 or 1-800-822-7422.

R. Hunter Morey, M.S.W.
San Francisco

Facts of booze and beverage

This letter is in response to the June 26, 1997 letter slamming the Pride Committee for hiring outside the gay community for Beverage and Booze concessions. Mr. "Name withheld by request" threw out plenty of accusations and made plenty of innuendoes in his letter that hit the stands two days before Pride weekend, doing more damage to the community than any heterosexual-owned beverage and booze concession could possibly do. Now let's talk facts. As a gay catering company owner, I was approached to handle beverages for Pride. While I have the ability to draw a large staff, I have insurance, and I have the knowledge to pull off the events we are addressing, I do not have the ability to pull 250 trained professional bartenders who will focus on getting the job done for an eight hour shift, nor do I have a \$10,000,000 insurance policy, nor do I have the clout that Derek of Best Beverage Company had to draw the beverage sponsors like Miller and Bud Light (notice no Coors sponsorship). We made a valid attempt to find someone in the community who could handle this type of event, keeping the money "at home," to no avail. Nor have we had the support of smaller business owners who could pool their resources and in tandem pull off this event by themselves.

Here are some other facts. These events are outrageously expensive to put together. There are police and security, permits, gates, stages, speakers, DJs, sound equipment, rental trucks, toilets, garbage disposal and street sweepers, and an infinite list

of other details that you may not consider that all cost a tremendous amount of money. The largest corporate sponsors are the beer companies that come from outside the city. Refer to the article on page 14 of the June 26 issue and see what a paltry amount of money the corporations in our fair city contribute. Who do you work for, and did you solicit money for the cause? The money for Market

Street corridor permits went directly to the police department, and not into the hands of Pride. These included vendors of all types, including beverage and booze. You can bet there was no consideration given to gay businesses there.

As far as the volunteer situation goes, please be informed that it takes thousands of people to staff an event of this size... 500,000 people this year, and gearing up for one million in the year 2000. Your biggest complaint the last few years was that you didn't want to stand in line to buy booze. Well, we addressed that. We hired a professional with 250 bartenders to take your order. Did you wait in line for a beer this year? Probably not. The few volunteers that did show up to work their shifts were monetarily compensated to their chosen "Not for Profit organization." If we got volunteers that signed up, showed up and worked their shift, we would not need to hire anyone, but we are getting so few willing to commit time (and frankly most of the volunteers that worked where I was were straight women, and I would like to thank them and all others), that it is necessary to hire those who can and will work and put on a party for the gay community. Did you volunteer? Would you keep your eyes and mind on the business at hand and not the great bod walking in front of your area every few seconds? Would you stay for your committed time?

As far as the Pride Committee meetings go, they are boring, but I go and sit through them. It is important to me that each Pride be better than the last. They are open meetings. Come and vote. Come and share your opinion with everyone. Obviously you are wanting this to be a celebration much like the control Christopher Street West placed on Pride in L.A. where it costs \$10 to get through the gate, and no money at all goes to the community. Don't hide behind "Name withheld by request" published two days before Pride and expect to be taken seriously. See you at the next meeting if you ARE serious.

Robert M. Bykoff
Owner, Lionheart Catering
Burlingame, CA

Check out St. Mary's Park

For those in the market for purchasing a home, they may wish to explore St. Mary's Park neighborhood. It is a small quiet neighborhood comprised of 1930s stucco single-dwelling homes built in the Spanish Mission Revival style on the former campus of St. Mary's College. The adjacent city park offers a large open green space. There is limited access to through traffic, yet easy access to the 101 and 280 freeways, and it is walking distance to Muni bus and streetcar lines and the Glen Park BART station. The neighborhood is located in the Bernal Heights district south of Crescent Avenue. The neighborhood association is one of the oldest and most active in the city. St. Mary's Park is a welcoming community with a population of mixed age and ethnic backgrounds and a growing gay and lesbian presence.

Valentin Porras, Jacob Wolfe and Kahlo
San Francisco

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Straw vote

Thank you for printing in full the letter by Laura Larrett (B.A.R., June 19). But your editorial comment is just plain *wrong*. Ms. Larrett is accurate in her reporting of the events she mentioned. I was there.

Your reporter, when taking a poll of those present at the meeting at the AIDS Office of the SF Dept. of Public Health, did not ask me or anyone around me what our opinions of Ms. Larrett's veracity might be. The meeting was split about half and half, as evidenced by a straw vote taken on the question of whether to continue the meeting or to terminate it.

Ben Gardiner
San Francisco

Larrett letter, continued

The editor's response to Laura Larrett's letter stated that virtually every word Ms. Larrett said was wrong, according to the rest of the people at those meetings. This must mean that all people at all three meetings were consulted about this, which seems doubtful. Who is the B.A.R. reporter referred to who claims Ms. Larrett's words are wrong?

Jason Smart
San Francisco

Terrible effect

I was mystified by the editorial comment at the end of Laura Larrett's letter, "virtually every word Ms. Larrett has written is wrong." I was present at three of the meetings she mentioned, and the accounts are factual. Why would she lie, inasmuch as her actions would not flatter her in most people's eyes?

So maybe what you mean is "wrong-headed" or "out of line." I knew Laura before she got this way, and I think I know what changed her. It was reading Peter Duesberg's book *Inventing the AIDS Virus*. It had a terrible effect on me, too. Before I read it, I thought my friends died from a sexually-transmitted virus, and after, I became convinced they were poisoned by AZT. This book has turned both of us into angry fanatics. Of five reviews I've seen of it, four of the reviewers wisely avoided reading it, and your 100,000 readers should be warned to do likewise.

John Klein
San Francisco

[We stand by our comment. Virtually every word.]

No blanket statements

I had the opportunity to participate as a volunteer during the Peacemaking Conference last month. I also had the opportunity to listen to all of the Dalai Lama's presentations, and was in attendance at his news conference on Tuesday, June 10 as well.

At that news conference, a reporter asked about the Buddhist view of homosexuality. His Holiness responded by citing 2,000-year-old scripture which speaks about the inappropriateness of sexual activity involving the mouth, the anus, and the hand (by the way, no distinction was made between heterosexual or homosexual activity in this).

The Dalai Lama did say that there were proscriptions against same-sex activity, but that these proscriptions need to be reinterpreted in light of the modern socio-cultural environment. Can you imagine certain Western religious leaders saying this?

In other words, no blanket statements about the "ethics" of same-sex activity in today's world was made. His Holiness did say that from a purely rights point of view, gays and lesbians, as all people, must be accorded all human and legal rights.

By virtue of his position as the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, the Dalai Lama's views are accorded considerable respect (infallibility in the Catholic sense — the Pope is infallible when speaking on matters of faith and morals — does not exist in Buddhism, even though Westerners have taken to referring to the Dalai Lama as "His Holiness"). We Tibetan Buddhists also believe he is the reincarnation of the Buddha of Compassion, and as such is spiritually a fully-liberated being, who chooses to endure the endless cycle of birth, death, and rebirth in order to assist other beings to attain this same liberation.

It is with the reality of all of this in mind that I can accept the Dalai Lama's commentary on gay and lesbian sexuality and still be at peace with my spiritual and sexual practice. He has not closed any doors — rather, he's opened them. He has not condemned us. Rather, he has praised our sense of caring, community, and compassion.

We have now, as gay and lesbian people, a chance to leverage this great man's compassion, as well as his influence, to our benefit and the benefit of all people who are oppressed. Subsequent to this news conference, the Dalai Lama suggested a conference specifically on the area of gay and lesbian sexuality when he admitted that he wasn't sure as to why the original proscriptions were instituted in the first place. Let's make the best of this wonderful opportunity.

Jeff Braff
San Francisco

So many words, so little time

Week after week the *Bay Area Reporter* impresses me with the breadth and style of its book reviews: you folks do a better job of writing about our literature, the class as well as the trash, than any other weekly or monthly queer paper in the country. On top of that, you occasionally produce a meaty book supplement, as you did last week: it's the kind of effort that makes a booksellers' day. It's easy enough to go to a movie, a play, an opera; but writing a book review means taking the hours to read all those words — you have some good people doing it.

Victoria Brownworth's look at how small presses are being affected by the predatory practices of chain stores was an added bonus; your readers should know that lesbian/gay and women's stores, *A Different Light* included, are also threatened by the concentration of our profitable books on superstore shelves — shelves which do not carry either the unprofitable but indisputably necessary backlist of our writing, or the creative work of many of our beginning writers.

Richard Labonté
A Different Light Bookstores

On the CUSP

Re: Political Calendar, July 3.

I can't decide whether your not listing CUSP this time 'round was better than listing it solely under a "Sexual Freedom" category, as was done once previously.

For the record, CUSP members present at its May 28 meeting adopted house rules which declared its purpose "to work for the removal of the ban on private spaces in San Francisco sex establishments." Although one of its principal spokespersons was early on characterized as a "sex activist" as opposed to, say, "civil rights activist," CUSP has no official position on "sexual freedom," nor has it a definition of "promiscuity," much less has it undertaken to provide definitive statements regarding "safe" or "safer sex."

CUSP continues to meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month. Members continue to monitor meetings of the Human Rights Commission (HRC), the HRC LGBT Advisory Board, Health Commission, and Building Inspection Commission, where they occasionally make statements on their own. At the "Pride Festival," CUSP erected a booth (which presumably provided some privacy on Justin Herman Plaza to those who availed themselves), collected additional signatures, and distributed a leaflet which illustrated how Willie Brown's administration continues the bathhouse policies of Dianne Feinstein under the guise of Health Dept. regulations issued without public hearings or even discussion by the Health Commission.

So long as no other organization — legal, political, or trade — takes up this issue, it is likely that CUSP will continue to meet, or at the very least, that its members will continue to make statements in public fora. Therefore, it would seem appropriate to list CUSP under "Activist Organizations," although admittedly "activist" is a debated term, appearing as it does in the salutation of every other fundraising letter one receives these days.

Reid Condit
San Francisco

[The next CUSP meeting is at The Power Exchange (located at 74 Oris Street) Wednesday, July 23 at 7:30 p.m. More information is available at (415) 627-4019.]

Leather scandal

It was with great concern that I read the article by Mr. Marcus in the *Bay Area Reporter* about a recent scandal in the leather community. Mr. Marcus named the offense but not the offender. In part, probably because scandal and unfortunate news travel fast enough on their own, thereby making it unnecessary, but perhaps more importantly, because I know that Mr. Marcus and the unnamed are friends.

I want to say how I feel for Mr. Marcus. As a reporter of the San Francisco leather community, he did what he had to do. I can only imagine that it must have brought him enormous pain to have to do it. Mr. Marcus, you have my respect.

I have concern with one phrase, however. Mr. Marcus states that the unnamed, having since relocated to Los Angeles, is now "persona non grata" in San Francisco. My concern is that such a stance can only serve to deepen a wound for everyone involved and the community as a whole, and leave little room for healing.

There is no justification for the offense that was committed. It was wrong. But it was not conceived through greed, and no attempt was made to flee, deflect or cover for responsibility. Actually, the contrary.

When I confided in a long-time friend about this recently, he recited a corny old poem. It went: "With so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, it hardly behooves the rest of us to look for fault in any of us."

James Dufourd
Santa Monica, CA

POLITICS

Bill bashing

by Wayne Friday

Former U.S. Senator **George McGovern**, himself the Democratic Party nominee for president in 1972, recently wrote an interesting column for the prestigious *Los Angeles Times* about how the sport of "presidential bashing" seems to have finally gotten out of hand. Even though I'm far from being an admirer of President **Bill Clinton**, I read McGovern's column with more than a bit of interest.

To be sure, Mr. Clinton has probably brought on himself much of the steady bashing he suffers courtesy of the press and various public figures. However, while presidential bashing, as McGovern points out, is one of the oldest of all American sports, in fairness, I think even Clinton's political enemies would have to admit that *this* president has endured more than his fair share for the past 4-1/2 years.

Many presidents who were later deified by history underwent the same pillorying that Clinton now experiences on a daily basis. **Abraham Lincoln** was verbally assassinated long before **John Wilkes Booth** shot him. Founding father **Thomas Jefferson** was widely assailed as an atheist

and a stooge of the hated French Jacobins, the Bolsheviks of that era. His critics even charged publicly that Jefferson secretly planned to confiscate and destroy all Bibles. Even the nation's first president, the

revered **George Washington**, after being cruelly lambasted in office, is reported to have said, "I'd rather be in my grave than absorb another year in the White House." **Franklin Roosevelt**, one of our country's most popular presidents, was savagely attacked his critics, as was — shades of **Hillary Rodham Clinton** — his wife **Eleanor**.

While I do believe that Bill Clinton is a man of questionable private habits, I also think that a lot of the vitriol hurled at him is purely personal and based on nothing but bile and unfounded rumors and vague allegations of wrongdoing. I agree with McGovern that such a relentless smear campaign not only undermines our democratic system but also greatly adds to the cynicism about government in general.

For years now we have been deluged with coverage of the Whitewater affair, a "scandal" concerning a questionable land deal involving Mr. Clinton before he became president. Whatever this real estate transaction was about, Bill and Hillary Clinton certainly didn't get rich off it, and no charges have ever been filed against them despite **Kenneth Starr's** never-ending investigation.

As for the president's alleged sexual escapades, Presidents **Jefferson**, **Warren Harding**, **Dwight Eisenhower**, **FDR**, **Lyndon Johnson**, **John Kennedy**, and even **George Herbert Walker Bush** have had similar charges leveled against them. Do we really care? Does it make any difference as to how these men ran the country? Hell, even that devout Southern Baptist, **Jimmy Carter**, once publicly confessed to having lust in his heart. (As for **Paula Jones**, would she have ever gone



Water off a duck's back: Bill Clinton has frustrated his opponents.

public with her "harassment" charge if the rabidly conservative critics of the president hadn't encouraged and supported her? She might be telling the truth — or some version of it — but she's certainly no **Anita Hill**.)

The upshot of all this? Despite all the nasty sound bites and negative blasts of publicity, an *ABC News* Poll released last week shows Mr. Clinton with a very respectable 64 percent public approval rating. At this rate, Bill Clinton will likely leave the White House with ratings rivaling those of that other Teflon chief exec, **Ronald Reagan**.

Politics and people

A "proudly gay Republican" (isn't that an oxymoron?) called to complain that I didn't give gay GOP Rep. **Jim Kolbe's** Log Cabin Pride appearance enough column space. Sorry for the paucity of coverage, dear pissed-off reader, but I didn't think Kolbe really merited that much blather. He certainly doesn't, as you claim, deserve praise for "coming out of the closet." Not only was Kolbe dragged out of the closet by the *Advocate*, the guy also voted for the Defense of Marriage Act, while purportedly sleeping nightly with his longtime partner. What a hypocrite!

With Rep. **Sonny Bono** out of California's GOP U.S. senate race, recent polls show Democratic Senator **Barbara Boxer** leading the remaining three GOP candidates (San Diego Mayor **Susan Golding**, state Treasurer **Matt Fong** and San Diego businessman **Darrell Issa**) by comfortable margins. However, the large undecided vote could still spell trouble for Boxer.

The skinny has it that if Democratic Rep. **Loretta Sanchez** is rightfully allowed to keep her 46th District House seat (instead of facing the insidious **Bob Dornan** in a new election ordered by GOP power-brokers), don't expect "B-1 Bob" to be her opponent in the June 1998 election. Dornan's equally reactionary son, **Mark Dornan**, is, however, a likely candidate, insiders claim.

Senator **Dianne Feinstein** and her husband **Dick Blum** were among those select few from Cal-

ifornia invited to the wedding last weekend of Veep **Al Gore's** daughter, **Kareenna**, at Washington's National Cathedral. As for those will-she-or-won't-she-run rumors about DiFi, I'm told she is now thinking of waiting until "late in the year" before announcing one way or another. Those who supposedly know these things tell me that means she is leaning toward a run for governor. "Otherwise, she would say so now and give Panetta time to mount a campaign," one Feinstein admirer opines. Let's hope he's on the money.

Senator Feinstein already boasts an enviable state campaign organization. Why should she announce now and give others six more months to snipe at her? I personally believe that holding off means she is strongly considering running. Polls continue to show her as the only California Democrat who can take back the governor's office next year and save us all from the tender mercies of **Dan Lungren**.

Bush...again? Texas Governor **George W. Bush Jr.**, the eldest son of the former president, is reportedly so popular that no Democrat is willing to challenge him when he runs for re-election next year. Some Republicans are already looking past next year's election and saying that Bush Jr. is the man to beat in the 2000 GOP presidential sweepstakes.

Former Supervisor **Angela Alioto**, author of the incendiary *Straight From the Heart*, is scheduled for an upcoming appearance on **Bill Maher's** *Politically Incorrect* ABC television show. CNN's **Larry King Live** is also interested in the extremely loquacious (okay, she's a motor mouth) and eminently quotable Alioto.

Patricia Ireland, who has many friends in San Francisco, was re-elected president of the National Organization for Women.

Shades of Oklahoma City? A high fence with ungated openings large enough only for people and emergency vehicles to drive through is soon to be built around the Capitol in Sacramento. The gate will cost \$3 million and won't be completed until early 1999.

On a personal note, belated birthday greetings to a friend and one of our community's heroes, AIDS activist **Jeff Getty**. Continued good health and many, many more, Jeff. ▼

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Fool on the hill

by Beth Elliott

How many lesbians does it take to screw in a lightbulb? None! JoAnne Loulan says lesbians have boyfriends to do it for us! [See story, page 14.] The thought of moving heaven and earth to rearrange my schedule for last Thursday's Palo Alto Lesbian Rap, featuring an erstwhile sister lesbian writer, was really, really tempting. I bet there were a lot of interesting questions for the guest speaker, and asking them must have been great fun. I, alas, must wait for the Cyberdykes posts. The last time I saw someone so unclear on the concept of spousal gender identity was George of the Jungle, replying to Ape's question about Fella/Ursula with, "You mean that funny-shaped guy who never shaves?" Watch out for that tree, indeed!

A Pretty Grrl Is, Like, On Melody? Dept.: What an (extended) weekend for women musicians! Mary Chapin Carpenter, Indigo Girls, Sarah McLachlan and her rotating Lilith Fair troupe ... with Joan Osborne, Shawn Colvin, and Sheryl Crow on the way. Yow! My personal you-had-to-be-there moment: jitterbugging with a large, sweet Mexican

butch to Mary Chapin Carpenter cranking up her Rickenbacker 12-string on "Passionate Kisses." Being in the moment when the moment is there... always a reminder of why we're alive and have bodies.

Hell, No! I Won't Go! Dept.: The realization is now unavoidable: The Kid is middle-aged. Don't think because I can admit that openly that I intend to go gentle into that good ... midday? No, I'm not loading up on tats and piercings and chasing 20-year-olds. (I've always sorted more by intelligence and vitality than age in either direction, anyway. When I was 20, I had an affair with a woman who was 37, so I've never been one to stand on that particular ceremony.) It's more like, I'm going to tell various evidence of mileage to piss off, and keep going about my business.

In addition to finally spotting a gray hair, I got a disturbing contact lens prescription after crunching one on friends Lynn and Wendy's annual Fourth of July camping trip. The new hardware for the baby blues: one lens for distance, one for reading, and a few days of the brain adapting to the new configuration. Yes, it's the old bifocal work-around, or actually a new one—but not one for accepting pa-

tiently in any case.

And but 12 hours into wearing them, the first softball game of Berkeley's summer season. Could be challenging under the new visual practices. Definitely time for another heartwarming episode of "Fun With Hand-Eye Coordination." You know, I really hate it when women in their 30s or pushing 30 complain on the diamond about getting old? Glad I could settle in by sending a two-RBI triple screaming down the third-base line; some of us don't have time to be middle-aged.

I'm a dedicated Nolan Ryan fan, in full agreement with the sentiment that the best way to keep going is never slow down. I wrote "The Kid" above because it wasn't that long ago in the grand scheme of things that such was my role in the lesbian community. When I got asked to run for a local Daughters of Bilitis chapter office (yes, asked—by women who knew what they were doing), I was in line to be the first such under age 21. That's within two years of Stonewall, whose 25th anniversary we celebrated but three years ago; we're at that point in modern les-

bian/gay history, and this veteran is not even pushing 50 yet? Go fig.

Actually, there's something to be said for being in a position to look back on who you were as a young twenty-

something and have the distance to see yourself clearly. If this is the proverbial hill we all go over at some point ... damn, the view from the top of this puppy is totally bitchin'!

Last year at this time, I was going on about hiking to the top of Mt. Shasta and looking down on the mountain as though it were a topographical map of my psyche. I didn't make it to the top, but somehow I've managed to get the same effect: this past year has been one of being able to reach into the depths of the subconscious and pull out a lot of individual items for inspection—usually while hiking on some hillside.

Going to Cirque du Soleil's *Quidam* was another such experience. The framework for the incredible acrobatics is the conceit of a little girl being ignored by her parents and slipping off into a dream world ... which for reasons unknown inspired me to think of

the contents of the subconscious as, perhaps, remnants of a child's dream-like interpretation of parents' incomplete explanations of things in life about which she's curious.

I found myself wishing that, when I was a child, I could have seen something like this and had that little girl to identify with. As one ribbon-climbing acrobat made incredibly athletic moves in a body stocking that highlighted her pubic mound, I thought about the "lady acrobats" I saw when I was little: their bodies were both encased and displayed; the point of their feats was grace, not the obvious strength, coordination and nerve; they were applauded for flipping over and showing their panties—which otherwise was considered "nasty" and dirty. There was some contradiction here, one never explained to me adequately.

Suddenly seeing pieces of the subconscious puzzle out on the table is a strange thing. Does the question middle age poses revolve around the choice of looking at them in the light or, tired of straining to see, relaxing and letting them remain fuzzy? Sometimes, as I keep doing the things that bring me joy and make me think, I wonder about that. ▼



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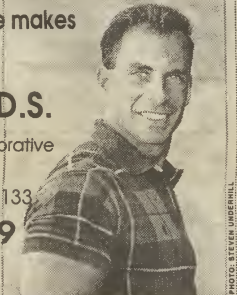


PHOTO: BETTE JOHNSON

Everlyn Hunter named TriKone chair

by Cynthia Laird

Trikone, the Bay Area-based group for lesbian, gay, and bisexual South Asians, has appointed Everlyn Hunter chair. She takes over the position from Dyanthe McDougal, who served as 1996 co-chair.

Hunter, who works as a school psychologist in the Bay Area, grew up in Jamaica and immigrated to the United States when she was 14. She considers her heritage to include Indian, African, and Jamaican cultural influences.

"As the new chair of TriKone, I hope to continue the work started by my predecessors in serving the gay, lesbian, and bisexual people of South Asian heritage and descent communities," Hunter said. "TriKone's identity has undergone a change since its inception; from an early Indian-centric focus to a more current South Asian-inclusive focus."

Hunter hopes that being the first person of Indo-Caribbean heritage to chair the board continues the trend of inclusiveness and "opens new possibilities in raising issues regarding the im-



Everlyn Hunter: "I hope to continue the work started by my predecessors."

pact of race and diasporic influences outside of South Asia, on American South Asian communities."

Said McDougal, "I am sorry to leave the board, but am glad that Everlyn is taking over, and I am


confident that she will do an excellent job. I enjoyed my time as co-chair."

TriKone (Sanskrit for triangle) is a nonprofit group for lesbian, gay, and bisexual South Asians. South Asia includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Tibet.

TriKone was formed in 1986 in the Bay Area and is the oldest kind of group of its kind in the world. Its goal is to bring men and women of South Asian heritage together in a friendly, supportive, and non-judgmental environment, and to promote awareness, visibility, and acceptance of alternative sexuality in society.

Hunter and McDougal said TriKone proudly affirms both its South Asian identity as well as its sexuality, and opposes sexism and all other forms of discrimination. ▼


For more information about TriKone, call (408) 270-8776, write: P.O. Box 21354, San Jose, CA 95151, or e-mail: trikone@rahul.net



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Cycle-ogical synchronicity?

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

In 1971, Harvard psychologist Martha McClintock published a short paper in the British scientific journal *Nature*. In it, she reported that the menstrual periods of women who share rooms in college dormitories tend to come into synchrony in the course of the academic year.

During the decade after the appearance of McClintock's paper, a number of further papers, both by McClintock and others, seemed to confirm the existence of menstrual synchrony, and to show that it occurred in other groups of women besides college roommates: women on sports teams, women in a shared workplace environment, and sisters in families. McClintock also suggested a mechanism for how menstrual synchrony comes about: chemical signals or pheromones spread in the air from one woman to another, bringing their menstrual cycles into alignment.

There is something very appealing about the idea of menstrual synchrony, particularly from a feminist perspective. It could be seen as the physical sign of an intimate, quasi-sexual bond between women (regardless of their sexual orientation) — a sign that is invisible to male oppressors, like the secret signs of slaves or prisoners. The phenomenon has been mentioned in many books about women's lives and bodies. In 1996, for example, Joan Borysenko described it in *A Woman's Book of Life*. She presented menstrual synchrony, and its pheromonal mechanism, as es-

tablished facts, and she suggested that women are commonly aware of the phenomenon from their own experience.

Yet today, 26 years after McClintock's original paper, menstrual synchrony is in big trouble. Several lines of evidence have thrown the whole phenomenon into doubt. First, it has been pointed out by a number of scientists that McClintock's original study was marred by an error of analysis, and that this error would tend to cause an apparent convergence of the women's menstrual periods over time, even if no such convergence really took place. McClintock has acknowledged the existence of this error, but maintains, probably correctly, that the error was not large enough to explain her results.

Second, a number of more recent studies have failed to observe menstrual synchrony in situations where it was thought to occur. In an Israeli study published in 1997, for example, the author failed to see any convergence of menstrual periods among college roommates — the very kind of subject in which McClintock originally reported the effect. Other negative results have been reported for women on sports teams and women in the workplace.

Perhaps the most interesting negative study is one conducted on lesbian couples by Wenda Trevathan and her colleagues at New Mexico and Arizona State Universities. These researchers chose 29 lesbian couples who had been cohabiting (and usually sleeping together and having sex with each other) for some time. Thus, one would expect that, if convergence of menstrual periods does occur, the periods of the two women in each couple would already have come into lock-step. In fact, however, the menstrual periods of the two women in each couple were randomly spaced at the beginning of the study, and they did not converge as the study progressed. Thus, women who one might most expect to show menstrual synchrony seem not to do so.

Finally, there are theoretical problems with menstrual synchrony. If it is a real phenomenon, it must have evolved (or been maintained) during the hundreds

of thousands of years of hunter-gatherer culture that preceded our species' brief period of "civilization." But from what we know of contemporary and past hunter-gatherer cultures, women did not generally experience repeated menstrual cycles in the way they do today, because they were usu-

ally pregnant or nursing infants. If that is true, it's difficult to see how the mechanism for menstrual synchrony could have evolved.

It is possible that "menstrual synchrony" is an illusion, fostered by anecdotes and random coincidences. Certainly, anecdotes have played a big part in the story.

McClintock's original paper started with an undocumented story of seven female lifeguards whose periods all occurred within a four-day period, after a mere three months of working together. Yet neither McClintock's nor anyone else's data would support the idea that such rapid and complete synchronization actually occurs. Similarly, when I broached the subject on a sexologists' mailing-list recently, one woman described how her three daughters had "emptied a box of 40 tampons" in a few days. Such anecdotal evidence may be a good initial spur to scientific investigation, but it can hardly be the clincher.

It is also possible that menstrual synchrony does occur, but only in limited circumstances that have not yet been adequately defined. Either way, it's a sad reflection on the degree of scientific attention paid to women's issues that, twenty-six years after menstrual synchrony was first reported, there is still no agreement about whether the phenomenon really exists, let alone about its mechanism. ▼

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996) and the gay techno-thriller *Albrick's Gold* (Richard Kasak Books, 1997). He is also co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of this publication or at SLeVay@aol.com.

Queer Science

Correction

In a June 19 article about the Dalai Lama's historic meeting with lesbian and gay leaders in San Francisco, the *Bay Area Reporter* stated that the possibility of organized gay and lesbian protest, including conference site picketing and a high-profile public information ad campaign conducted in the national media such as the *New York Times*, was defused after the issue was discussed during a cabinet meeting of the Tibetan government-in-exile in Dharamsala, India — and that the meeting with religious leader Steve Peskind and others was scheduled by the Office of Tibet.

The statements were based on information that Peskind's request for a meeting with the Dalai Lama was on the agenda at a cabinet meeting of the government-in-exile, and that conference organizers were aware of the possibility of the ad campaign and other forms of protest.

The B.A.R. has since been informed that while conference organizers were aware of the possibility of protest, the statement that "the flap was discussed" during a meeting of the Tibetan government is inaccurate. The B.A.R. was also informed that any inference that the meeting with Peskind and others was in any way related to, caused by, or connected to the possibility of protest is inaccurate.

We apologize for any harm the errors may have caused. ▼

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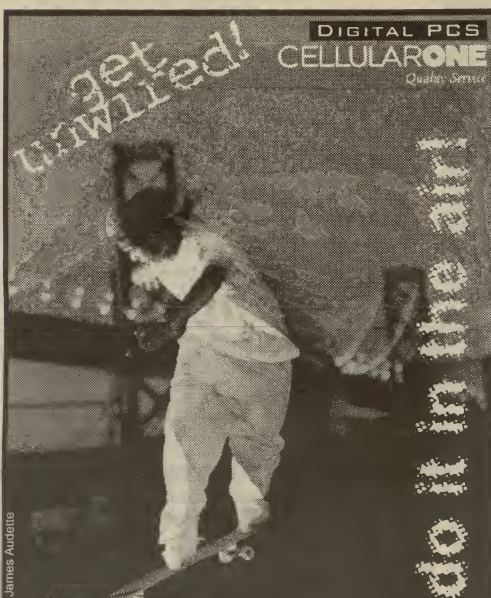
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All My Children's gay kid gets good plot, bad medicine

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource
center manager

Throughout the past several weeks, Kevin Sheffield (Ben Jorgensen) on ABC's *All My Children* has begun to develop a storyline involving themes including gay youth and family, homophobia, and so-called "reparative therapy." After Kevin came out over a year ago, his parents abandoned him. Now his mother has returned and has urged Kevin to see an anti-gay therapist who claims he can "cure" Kevin's sexual orientation. By doing so, the mother hopes to reconcile Kevin with his virulently bigoted father and "make life easier" for Kevin, who she fears will have a hard life because he is gay.

Meanwhile, hospital Chief of Staff and beloved AMC patriarch Dr. Joe Martin introduced the quack therapist Dr. Chapman, by calling him a manipulative, unethical "snake oil" doctor whose methods deceive and end up doing far more damage than good.

Kevin has begun seeing Dr. Chapman to please his mother. Kevin's close female friend, Kelsey, has formed a one-sided crush on him, and is hoping against hope that Kevin will change his sexual orientation. Will Kevin resolve his desire to reunite with his family, make his galpal happy, expose Dr. Chapman's bigotry, and maintain his own dignity?

According to GLAAD sources on the show, this story will appear once or twice a week and has the support of ABC's daytime television executives. Still, this is a groundbreaking plot for soap operas and ABC needs to receive clear support from fair-minded viewers. By opening a dialogue about the pressures placed on gay youth by their families as well as exposing the malicious motives of anti-gay therapists who claim they can "change" sexual orientation, *All My Children's* new plot will undoubtedly be thought-provoking and educational.

Please applaud ABC for Kevin's continued presence on AMC and the ongoing plot about his sexual orientation and the discrimination based on it. It is especially important that women ages 18-49, daytime's main demographic, respond. In addition, encourage ABC, CBS and NBC Daytime to add more lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender characters to their soap rosters.

Contact: ABC Daytime, 77 W. 66th Street, New York, NY 10023-6201, fax: 212.456.2381, e-mail: day-time@abc.com; NBC Daytime, 3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523, fax: 818.840.4275; CBS Daytime, 6309 N. O'Connor #125, Irving, Texas 75039, fax: 214.869-2653.

Time watches transgender custody fight

In the July 7 issue of *Time* magazine, Jeanne McDowell examines a child-custody case in California involving a transgender

father whose parental rights are being challenged by his estranged wife, not because he is incapable of parenting—but because he underwent sex-reassignment surgery. The article explains Joshua Vecchione's fight to continue co-parenting his daughter, Briana. Vecchione made the transition to male in 1976, and has been upfront and honest about being transgender with both of his former wives. Kristie Vecchione, who is suing Joshua for sole custody of their daughter (conceived by artificial insemination with Joshua's brother acting as a donor), says that their marriage was never valid—since Joshua was once a woman, their union violated California's same-sex marriage ban, and that Joshua is not entitled to joint custody of Briana.

The story is told in a balanced and fair manner, treating both parents' concerns sensitively. The issue of Joshua's transgender status is dealt with in a matter-of-fact way, relevant to the story. McDowell sees no need to seek the opinion of small-minded bigots, which would give a misguided and ultimately prejudicial angle to the story; instead she lets the players in this human drama speak for themselves, with dignity and respect intact.

Thank *Time* for this responsible and moving story about a father who simply wants to parent his child.

Contact: Jim Gaines, Managing Editor, *Time*, Time-Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10020, fax: 212.522.0323, e-mail: letters@time.com.

Sega, PlanetWeb take small step after dialogue with GLAAD

PlanetWeb's Sega Saturn game console browser featured an anti-gay content filter entitled "alternative lifestyles," defined as "impartial references to homosexuality, bisexuality, transvestites, and transgender issues or lifestyles." It contained archaic homophobic language such as allowing the option to block sites that "promote alternative lifestyles or attempt to recruit the viewer into the lifestyle." In response to an ongoing dialogue with GLAAD, PlanetWeb and Sega have taken their first step forward in fairer and more equal access to the Internet for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people.

PlanetWeb has reworded the definitions of the content filter so that instead of "alternative lifestyles," it now offers the option to block "Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Subjects." While PlanetWeb still offers filters of "positive" and "impartial" gay representations, it has added the option of blocking sites with "a negative representation of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender subjects."

GLAAD applauds this small step forward, but PlanetWeb and Sega still single out our community, treating us as an ideology in-

stead of as an orientation. GLAAD fully supports a parent's right to choose the content a child sees. But PlanetWeb and Sega do not provide parents the option of choosing to block out other entire classes of people, on such traits as race, gender, age, national origin, or physical or mental ability. By singling out the gay community among these groups, PlanetWeb and Sega perpetuate the misconception that the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community is simply a "controversial ideology," such as politics, violence, or nudity, rather than an orientation.

GLAAD has challenged these companies to ask themselves if the same technology had existed before the civil rights movement, would they have offered the option to filter out civil rights information or positive representation of people of color. In the July 3 CNET's *News.com*, PlanetWeb founder Ken Soohoo "said that he never would filter out a certain racial or ethnic group. 'We're not in the business of selling prejudice here!'"

GLAAD hopes that PlanetWeb and Sega will make the connection that prejudice is prejudice. GLAAD has sent letters to both companies outlining its concerns and offering GLAAD as a resource in planning a fairer and more equal content-filtering system. Sega has expressed a willingness to seek resolution.

Please let both Sega and PlanetWeb know that their responsiveness is encouraging and urge them to work with GLAAD to continue moving towards a more fair and equal Internet for all.

Contact: Bernard Stolar, Chief Operating Officer, Sega of America, 255 Shoreline Drive, Suite 200, Redwood City, CA 94065, fax: 415.802.3622, e-mail: webmaster@sega.com; Ken Soohoo, Founder and Vice President of Engineering, PlanetWeb, Inc., 1390 Villa Street, Mountain View, CA 94041, fax: 415.903.7002, e-mail: soohoo@planetweb.com.

Beantown's 'Real World' has a real lesbian

The sixth season of MTV's hit show *The Real World* will spotlight a young Southern lesbian as part of the seven young adults who "start getting real," this time in Boston. According to the press release, "Twenty years old and from Gulfport, Mississippi, Genesis... is very open about her sexuality; she knew from a very young age that she was gay. Up until she moved in with her new housemates in Boston, she lived with her girlfriend Tammy, with whom she has been involved for two and a half years." The first two episodes of the new season aired on Wednesday, July 16.

Please let MTV and creators of *The Real World* know that you appreciate another inclusive season.

Contact: Greg Dredin, Programming Vice President, MTV, 1515 Broadway, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10036



Funny business on web

by Heather Shirkey

Now that we've all been indoctrinated with the cybermantra: "The Web is a wonderful resource tool," it's time to set the research aside for a moment and get down to the personality of it all. Forget the usefulness and utility of the endless entanglement of data. It's time to have some fun! Humor, amusement, and a bit of slightly off-color fun await in some of the more entertaining GLBT sites. (Cruise over to: <http://www.sirius.com/~hezaa/bar> and join Geek Grrrl for some fun!)

The "Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Humor" (<http://www.ncf.carleton.ca:12345/freepor/sig/slife/gay/humor/menu>) page is our first fun little treat. Looking for a good pick-up line to use at one of those sleazy South of Market clubs? Seeking answers to "Dyke Mysteries"? Craving some laughter-inducing snippets from "Gay & Lesbian Comedians"? This quick stop is sure to give you what you need. The site is far from being a graphic design wonder, but it is chock-full of tips and answers when you're in the mood for a quick site load and some cheap thrills.

How about a quick browse through the queer rich and famous online? "The Out List" (<http://www.gayfriendly.com/aust/outlist.html>) is an alphabetized collection of the famed who have decided to be publicly "out." Visit the likes of: Giorgio Armani, Italian fashion designer; Chastity Bono, rock musician, journalist, and daughter of Sonny Bono and Cher; Jasper Johns, artist; and Gore Vidal, novelist. It's a quick load, but the contents need some browsing time, as the list is growing each day.

The circuit of fun sites only improves from here when you head over to Larry-bob's online zine called *Holy Tit Clamps*. (<http://www.io.com/~larrybob>) Perhaps you need help finding a man. Follow the site's inspirational "Larry-bob's Guide to Finding a Man" with important guidelines such as, "Gay bars are a lousy place to meet men. You never know when some random pick-up is going to turn out to be a psychopath."

Holy Tit Clamps also offers an extensive collection of frequently-updated links to the Web's most entertaining personal sites, Web zines, comix, subculture and transgendered sites. (You can even submit your own piece of cybervanity for listing!) Probably the most entertaining link is to Larry-bob's list of the terms people entered into the "Infoseek" (<http://www.infoseek.com>) search engine that led them to this site. The long list includes search terms that seem to have nothing to do with Larry-bob's site yet have brought people to him, like: luke perry, bodily fluids, degradation of women in rap lyrics, and Manicurist. (<http://www.io.com/~larrybob/search.html>)

At this point, you must be all warmed up and feeling so interactive! So let's head over to *Blair*, (<http://www.blairmag.com>) an online zine containing everything that's young and hip in the queer community. This month's issue, "#4: The Black Issue" touts a game



Blizzard of Blair: the "black issue" is latest from this hip, queer web zine.

that will challenge your instincts and wits, called "Lesbian or German Lady." View a series of photos and then guess whether or not you think the person pictured is a lesbian or a German lady.

So that we're not only picking on the grrrls, you can go into the Blair Mausoleum, visit Issue #3, then play "Gay or Eurotrash." Here, you bounce through a series of boy pix and decide whether each is gay or really Eurotrash. Sometimes, it's quite the challenge.

Feeling a bit more regal than all that? Then Geek Grrrl wants to guide you over to "Are You a Modern Queen? Quiz for the Drag Scene." (<http://www.at-beam.com/Wigstock/GirlTalk/LindaModern.html>) Do you have what it takes to become a star in the Drag Scene? Find out here through a series of in-depth questions like, "At the club you see Girlina, Lady Bunny, and Candis

Cayne together. Whom do you acknowledge first?" (Be careful here, grrrls!) Unlike real-life drag queen time, this quiz is immediately ready to go with an easy scoring system at the end. No wait, no fuss.

Now that our interactivity is high, we may be looking to bring all this excitement into real life. Your next stop should definitely be at the "Clone Your Bone" site. (<http://www.cloneyourbone.com/index.html>) This site offers a kit that allows you to make wax replicas of body parts so you can "Immortalize a piece of yourself or your partner." The site even offers photos of other clones that have been created. Again, the site is a quick load, and very easy to follow... and a lot of fun.

So live a little! Set the dol-drums of research aside. There are always a couple of minutes during the day where you can sneak off into cyberspace for a laugh or some tainted humor. Perhaps you may become inspired to add your own bit of insanity to the mix of the Web. ▼



An image of cloned phalluses from the "Clone Your Bone" web site.

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Lesbian identity forum July 25

by Liz Highleyman

The boundaries of lesbian identity have appeared increasingly permeable in recent years. The revelation that well-known lesbian figures such as JoAnn Loulan have sexual relationships with men, and that others like Ann Heche have sexual relationships with women but do not consider themselves lesbian — as well as the recent explosion of transgender visibility — have called into question just what it means to be a lesbian.

This question will be explored at a Friday, July 25 public forum entitled "Outsiders on the Inside: Lesbians Exploring Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification." The event will feature Loulan and Kate Bornstein, and will be moderated by Kathryn Dean Kendall, JD. The forum is sponsored by the Institute for the Advancement of Human Behavior.

Loulan is well-known for her involvement in the lesbian rights movement. She is a therapist who has written widely on lesbian sex and relationships. Loulan garnered headlines earlier this year when she announced she was in a romantic and sexual relationship with a man, yet still considers herself to be a lesbian, not bisexual or heterosexual. Bornstein is a transgendered activist, performance artist, and author of the book *Gender Outlaw* who "at one time sought inclusion in the lesbian

community." Although the two come from very different situations, both have faced exclusion from the lesbian community. The forum will explore whether lesbians need to "close ranks" to maintain their integrity, or whether the community of women-loving-women would be better served by expanded boundaries and more flexible definitions.

Bornstein told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I think what's happening is that we're approaching the end of what might be called the Identity Age, where what we are is so important to our lives. ... The good thing about identity politics is that it gives people a sense of membership, a sense of belonging. The bad thing, I think, is that we have to give up a little or a lot of our personal integrity in order

to measure up to some perfect identity membership requirements. ... When someone like me comes wandering into the lesbian community, I just don't measure up, and my presence begins to call into question the nature of those membership requirements.

"Same with gender. Do I belong to the gender Woman? I don't think so, but my presence calls the nature of that category, as well as the membership requirements of a lot of folks who do currently belong to that category, into question."

Bornstein commented that while she and Loulan have both violated membership requirements of the lesbian community, they have handled their outsider status quite differently. She said, "JoAnn insists on her right to maintain her [lesbian] member-

ship and identity, while I gave up both and looked for something else." Bornstein predicts that the discussion will be "lively."

A related clinical training workshop entitled "Coloring Outside the Lines: Helping Clients Deal with Problems Involving Gender Identity and Social Orientation," led by Loulan and featuring Bornstein as a special guest, will be held the following day. This workshop, to be held at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, is designed for health professionals and students. ▼

"Outsiders on the Inside" will take place July 25, 7 - 10 p.m. at Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis St. Registration opens at 6:15 p.m. Cost is \$15. For information, call 851-8411.

Community forum on women abusing women this Saturday

by Cynthia Laird

Women abusing other women. It does happen, and in an effort to develop a community response to this domestic violence issue, a forum will be held this Saturday, July 19 at the Women's Building in San Francisco.

The session, entitled "Woman to Woman Domestic Violence:

Let's Start to Talk," is being sponsored by LIABLE, which stands for Legal Intervention and Advocacy for Battered Lesbian Empowerment Program. It is a program of the San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation's Legal Intervention for Family Empowerment (LIFE) Project. LIABLE and Saturday's forum are made possible by grants from Bay Area Career Women's (BACW) "A Fund of Our Own."

Interested women are encouraged to attend the afternoon meeting. Various forms of domestic violence by and against women will be addressed, including in-

timidation, threats, physical, and sexual violence. Studies have shown that one out of four women in lesbian relationships suffers from violence at the hands of their lovers or ex-lovers.

The workshop will also highlight steps women can take, including available legal protection. LIABLE, through the Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic, offers a weekly civil restraining order clinic for lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women living with or seeking to escape domestic violence by women. The clinic offers free services and is staffed by women sensitive to the unique concerns and fears of queer women dealing with violent relationships.

Clinic services are available in English and Spanish. Translation in other languages can also be provided.

Women who attend Saturday's meeting will learn exactly what a civil restraining order can do to protect them. Other domestic violence resources for lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women will also be discussed. ▼

The community forum will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, in the Harriet Tubman Room, 3rd Floor. For more info about LIABLE's clinic services, call (415) 864-4722.

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Anti-gay company suing SF revealed as perm ante business

Still no Arizona address found for PM&M

by Cynthia Laird

PM&M Electric, Inc., the Oakland-based company that is suing San Francisco over its domestic partner benefit law, had an income of less than \$1,000 last year, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned. According to information the B.A.R. obtained, the company has yet to make over \$25,000 in any year since 1989. Last year it reported making only \$888.

The B.A.R. has been investigating PM&M since the lawsuit was filed, in an effort to find out the company's size, the extent of its contracts with other municipalities, and other information. PM&M is represented in its lawsuit by the Pat Robertson-backed American Center for Law and Jus-

tice (ACLJ). The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court June 17.

According to its lawsuit, the company provides building and construction services on a contract basis to customers in California and Arizona, and has an office there. However, although the company maintains it has an office in Gilbert, Arizona, a city just south of Mesa, the B.A.R. has been unable to find any evidence of such an office.

PM&M does have valid contractors licenses in California and Arizona. The company filed an annual report and disclosure with the Arizona Corporation Commission for 1996, and listed that it has fewer than 25 employees. The report also indicates the company owns about \$1 million in property. It is not known where that property is located.

PM&M has a valid business license in Oakland, according to that city's business license office. Annual income figures include income generated from work in Oakland and elsewhere.

PM&M does not appear to be a large company: approximate annual income figures obtained by the B.A.R. show the firm earned \$20,000 in 1989; \$25,000 in 1990; \$15,900 in 1991; \$3,700 in 1992; \$10,000 in 1993; \$23,700 in 1994; and \$9,900 in 1995. The information calls into question the ACLJ's contention that PM&M is expanding and wants to bid on and get contracts in San Francisco.

It is unknown whether PM&M has had contracts with other municipalities or how expensive those contracts may have been. The firm has never had

contracts with San Francisco.

Various California and Arizona records indicate that three Contra Costa County men are officers of the company. All are believed to reside in Martinez: two have addresses on the same street, and all the homes are within a short distance of one another in a middle class residential area. PM&M's officers are: Ronald Ellis Hammer, 42, president of PM&M; John K. Giacomia, 43, vice president; and John B. Giacomia, Jr., 65, secretary and treasurer.

Repeated calls to the Giacomias and to ACLJ attorney Benjamin Bull in Scottsdale, Arizona were not returned to the B.A.R. Additionally, the company's Oakland phone number now has no message identifying it as the number for PM&M Electric; as

recently as a few weeks ago, there was an answering machine message at that location.

An unidentified woman who answered the phone at John B. Giacomia's apparent residence in Martinez said she did not know anything about the firm's annual income last year being reported at \$888.

In its lawsuit, the company charges that San Francisco's non-discrimination law exceeds the authority granted to municipal corporations, is pre-empted by state law, and violates the city's charter.

The landmark non-discrimination law requires businesses that contract with the city to offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if the benefits are offered to spouses. The ordinance went into effect June 1.

In addition to PM&M's lawsuit, the city faces a court challenge over the non-discrimination law from the Air Transport Association (ATA). That federal lawsuit was filed in May.

Dennis Atergut with the city attorney's office told the B.A.R. this week that both cases will be heard by Judge Claudia Wilken. No court date has yet been set, he said. ▽

Finns sentence rapper to 14 years for passing HIV

United Press International

American rap artist Stephen Thomas of New York is going to jail for 14 years for knowingly infecting Finnish women with HIV.

The 36-year-old Thomas was convicted Thursday, July 10 of 17 counts of attempted manslaughter, for having unprotected sex with the women and failing to tell them about his HIV status. Five of the 17 women have tested positive for the virus.

Thomas's lawyer Aarno Arvelo called the punishment handed down by the Helsinki District Court "a very stiff sentence. It's certainly up there among the longest sentences ever issued in Finland."

He says Thomas would appeal the sentence, which also includes a monetary payment of \$57,000 to each of the HIV-positive women and \$4,000 to each of the other 12. In addition, the court ordered the trial transcript sealed for 40 years to protect the identities of the women.

Thomas moved to Finland in 1991 and discovered two years later he was HIV-positive.

Finland has one of the lowest AIDS death rates in Europe. Since 1982, 200 people have died from AIDS and 800 have tested positive. ▽

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INDICATIONS AND USAGE
ZERIT (stavudine) is indicated for the treatment of HIV-infected patients who have received prolonged prior zidovudine therapy.

The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES
Study A455-019 was a multi-center, randomized, double-blind trial of ZERIT Capsules vs zidovudine for the treatment of HIV-infected adults with CD4 counts of 50 to 500 cells/mm³ who had received at least six months prior zidovudine treatment. ZERIT was administered in dosages of 40 mg BID for patients weighing ≥60 kg, and 30 mg BID for those weighing <60 kg. The zidovudine dosage was 200 mg TID for those weighing ≥60 kg and 150 mg TID for those weighing <60 kg.

The study enrolled 822 patients with a median baseline CD4 count of 235 cells/mm³ (range: 10 to 735 cells/mm³), and a median duration of prior zidovudine treatment of 88 weeks (range: 1 to 355 weeks). Fourteen percent of subjects had AIDS at baseline. 50% had HIV-related symptoms and 36% were asymptomatic.

Table 1 gives the Kaplan-Meier estimates for the time to disease progression.

Table 1 - Incidence of Disease Progression		
	First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*	
	ZERIT	zidovudine
6 months	4.4%	5.7%
12 months	10.4%	14.1%
18 months	18.5%	23.3%
24 months	26.6%	31.8%

* Kaplan-Meier estimates; the overall difference between stavudine and zidovudine was not significant.

CONTRAINDICATIONS
ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or to any of the components contained in the formulation.

WARNINGS
The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. This complication occurred in 19 and 24 percent of the 11,784 patients with advanced HIV disease who received the two doses of stavudine in the Parallel Track Program. In patients with less advanced HIV infection in the zidovudine comparative trial, peripheral neuropathy occurred in 13 percent of ZERIT-treated patients as compared to 4 percent of zidovudine-treated patients.

Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy that is usually characterized by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. It symptoms resolve completely, resumption of treatment may be considered at a reduced dose.

Patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy are at increased risk for the development of neuropathy. If stavudine must be administered in this clinical setting, careful monitoring is essential.

PRECAUTIONS
Information for Patients

Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT. Patients should be informed that the most common toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Symptoms of peripheral neuropathy usually include tingling, burning, pain, or numbness in the hands or feet. Patients should be counseled that this toxicity occurs with greater frequency in patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy. They should be advised that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians and that dose changes may be necessary. They should also be cautioned about the use of other medications that may exacerbate peripheral neuropathy.

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be informed that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Laboratory Tests

Mild to moderate increases in AST (SGOT) and ALT (SGPT) occurred commonly in clinical trials; these did not interfere with continued therapy.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
Long-term carcinogenicity studies of stavudine in animals have not been completed. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenicity and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed foci in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 2500 µg/mL, with and without metabolic activation).

The parallel track program (STUDY A455-900) treated 12,551 HIV-infected patients with CD4 counts <300/mm³ who had failed, were intolerant of, or had contraindications to other therapies.

In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy
Pregnancy Category C: Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of sternebrae, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers
Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This is consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV.

Pediatric Use
Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional safety data in 115 pediatric patients and pharmacokinetic data in 25 of these patients.

Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients (age range: 5 weeks to 15 years, weight range: 2 to 43 kg) after IV and oral administration of 0.125, 0.5, 1, and 2 mg/kg as single doses and as BID regimens. The mean ± SD absolute bioavailability was 76.9 ± 31.7% (n=20). Peak plasma concentration (C_{max}) and area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) increased in proportion to dose after both single and multiple doses.

Following intravenous infusions (n=21), the mean ± SD volume of distribution was 18.9 ± 9.1 L/m². The distribution of stavudine into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 8 pediatric patients after 12 weeks of multiple oral dosing. The concentration of stavudine in CSF samples ranged from 0.008 to 0.105 µg/mL at times ranging from 2 to 3 hours post-dose (dose ranging from 0.125 to 1 mg/kg). CSF concentrations ranged from 16% to 125% (mean ± SD of 59% ± 35%) of the concentration in simultaneous plasma samples.

The terminal elimination half-life after oral or intravenous administration of stavudine was approximately one hour. The mean ± SD apparent oral clearance was 333 ± 87 mL/min/m². The percentage of the dose excreted unchanged in the urine was 5% after single doses and 10% after BID dosing.

The clearance of stavudine is related to both body surface area and body weight. When dosing according to body weight, the recommended dosage for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 2 mg/kg/day in divided doses. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dose.

ADVERSE REACTIONS
The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT (stavudine) is peripheral neuropathy (see "WARNINGS" section).

Adults: Peripheral neuropathy is dose related (see Table 2). Mild elevation of hepatic transaminases was also observed commonly in controlled trials.

Table 2
Peripheral Neuropathy Leading to Dose Modification

	Study A455-019 ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	% zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=595)	Parallel Track Program ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=595)	% ZERIT (20 mg BID) (n=587)
Peripheral Neuropathy				
Grade 1-2	3	20	17	
Grade 3-4	2	1	4	2
Total	13	4	24	19

Selected adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Table 3
Selected Clinical Adverse Events in the Phase 3 Controlled Clinical Trials*

	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	% Study A455-019 zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Chills/Fever	50	51
Dizziness	50	43
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	38	34
Abdominal Pain	34	27
Myalgia	32	35
Insomnia	29	31
Anorexia	19	22
Allergic Reaction	19	2
Pancreatitis	9	8

* This event was reported in fewer than 1% of patients. Includes all clinical complaints.
* Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

Laboratory abnormalities reported in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A455-019) are shown in Table 4.

Table 4 Controlled Clinical Trials: Incidence of Adult Laboratory Abnormalities*		
Lab Tests (units)	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	% Study A455-019 zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT) (≤5.0 x ULN) ^a	11	10
ALT (SGPT) (≤5.0 x ULN)	13	11
Bilirubin (≤5.0 x ULN)	2	2
Anemia (≤8.0 g/dL)	3	3
Neutropenia (neutrophils <750/mm ³)	5	9
Thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000/mm ³)	3	3
Amylase (>1.4 x ULN)	14	13

* This abnormality was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
* Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.

* Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

* ULN = upper limit of normal.

Pediatric Patients: Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSEAGE
Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdosage include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. It is not known whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

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ZERIT (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

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30 mg	Light orange	BMS 1966	60	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967	60	0003-1967-01

ZERIT for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label. ZERIT for Oral Solution is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water. NDC No. 0003-1965-01.
US Patent No. 4,978,655

Storage: ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

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House defunds NEA

by Liz Highleyman

The U.S. House of Representatives voted to defund the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) on Thursday, July 10, effectively abolishing the agency. The NEA was funded at \$99.5 million for the current fiscal year.

The House Rules committee had voted July 9 not to protect funding for the NEA. The following day, the committee's vote was upheld on the House floor by a close vote of 217 to 216. In its consideration of the Department of the Interior appropriations bill, the House further voted to strip the agency of a remaining \$10 million that was to be used for costs related to shutting down the agency. Republican Duncan Hunter of California said, "We are not going to give the money to aging hippies anymore to desecrate the crucifix or do other strange things."

Following the defunding vote, Hunter and Representatives Vernon Ehlers (R-MI) proposed a compromise amendment to eliminate the agency and instead allocate \$80 million in federal block grants for arts funding to states and school boards. The amendment failed by a vote of 155-271. With no funding, however, the fate of the NEA remains in jeopardy.

An effort by House Republicans to eliminate funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities failed on a voice vote on Friday, although a recorded vote was scheduled for this week.

The NEA's authorization officially expired in 1993 amid ongoing accusations from conservatives that the agency funded work that is homoerotic, pornographic, and offensive to religion. Early



NEA's Jane Alexander

skirmishes involved the works of Robert Mapplethorpe and Andre Serrano's "Piss Christ," which depicted a crucifix in a jar of urine. Attempts since then to reauthorize the agency have been unsuccessful.

The House was expected to pass its final Interior appropriations bill on Tuesday, July 15. The Senate will begin to consider its version of the spending bill this week, with the Senate Interior appropriations subcommittee scheduled to mark up their legislation on July 18.

NEA advocates claim to have strong support in the Senate, including appropriations subcommittee chair Slade Gorton (R-WA) and Rules Committee chair John Warner (R-VA). According to NEA Chair Jane Alexander, the agency did not get a fair vote on its merits in the House "due to party politics." She said, "We now look to the Senate for a fair debate and vote on the future of the agency."

The White House has said that President Clinton would consider vetoing the spending bill if NEA funds are cut or the agency is eliminated. ▼

National Council of Churches supports pro-gay sex ed video

by Mike Salinas

A new Planned Parenthood sex education video kit that says gay relationships can be "fulfilling" and defends abortion as "safe" has received the endorsement of a National Council of Churches official responsible for Christian education.

Promotional material for the Planned Parenthood video *Talking About Sex* includes enthusiastic praise from the Reverend Dr. Joe Leonard, associate director of the NCC's Ministries in Christian Education program.

"Hurray!" Leonard said of the 30-minute animated video and accompanying video guide. "Here is an engaging resource for coaching parents in one of their most important tasks—educating their children about sexuality." The NCC official calls the video's information "complete and accurate."

"More importantly," he said, "this resource gives parents help in communicating their values about sexuality."

Conservatives have denounced the tape. Diane Knippers, president of a group called Institute on Religion and Democracy, is most outraged about the parents' guide that accompanies the tape. While it notes that "some religions condemn homosexuality," the booklet states that "the bottom line is that homosexual love relationships can be as fulfilling as heterosexual love relationships."

It advises that children ages 10-14 should be educated about "diverse family structures ... [including] gay or lesbian parents."

Knippers blasted the video, saying, "How sad! Our young people see the sexual devastation all around them. The response from an official of our nation's largest church council is a teaching resource that dodges the moral guidance for which our young people yearn. Surely the NCC could have given its blessing to a resource that presented the Church's own rich teaching about the responsible use of God's good gift of sexuality."

"I recommend this kit unservedly," Leonard said. ▼

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Drop in SF AIDS deaths reported

by Cynthia Laird

Mirroring the national news of declining AIDS deaths in 1996, the just-released quarterly AIDS Surveillance Report by the Department of Public Health (DPH) shows there have been 162 deaths reported during the first six months of 1997 in San Francisco. In contrast, the total number of AIDS deaths last year in the city was 913, according to the report.

The number of new AIDS cases has also dropped; there have been 287 AIDS cases reported during the first six months of 1997. Last year there were 1,098 cases reported.

Dr. Mitch Katz, director of community health and safety for the city, which includes the AIDS Office, told the *B.A.R.* that the lower numbers are not unexpected.

Part of the decrease can be attributed to protease inhibitors being available for over one year. People living with HIV who are on the combination therapy are not developing AIDS like they were before the advent of new treatments.

"We did anticipate a drop, even without protease inhibitors. Between 1980 and 1984, there was a massive number of new AIDS cases and sadly, many of those people died between 1994 and 1996," Katz said.

Katz cautioned that while combination therapy has helped many people living with HIV/AIDS, there are also many people who are not on the drugs or for whom the medications have not been effective.

In addition to treatment advances, Katz pointed to the success of local HIV prevention efforts.

AIDS activist Michael Petrelis expressed optimism over the latest surveillance report. "These numbers indicate we are inching ever closer to the end of AIDS. However, I still think the DPH should establish a condom distribution program in the bars of the Tenderloin, Castro, and South of Market neighborhoods."

Condom distribution in bars and clubs frequented by gay clientele and others at high risk for HIV is expected to start later this summer. ▼

AIDS deaths

◀ page 1

disparity in death rates between men and women" as well as between ethnic groups. She pushed for that expansion and for an increase in funding for AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP).

Victoria Sharp MD, medical director of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan, offered another insight to the racial disparity. "Riker's Island is our city jail system; 100,000 people a year pass through there. People behind bars in our state are primarily people of color. Up until three days ago, if you were HIV-positive and found to be someone who clinically should be on protease therapy, you did not have access to that therapy."

Reimbursement patterns

"The good news is that patients are living longer. It is also good news for payers," Sharp said. "It is bad news for medical providers." They are caught in a "revenue crunch" that leaves them inadequately compensated for their services.

She outlined how in the past, hospital admittances had subsidized out-patient treatment of PWAs. But in New York state, better therapies

have reduced hospitalization by \$200 million while out-patient expenditures have increased only \$10 million. Added pressure comes from "much more complicated medical regimens" which have doubled the average amount of time (to about 40 minutes) a physician must spend on each PWA visit.

Dr. Linda Frank, with the Pennsylvania AIDS Education and Training Center, cautioned of dangers to PWAs in a managed care environment. "This limitation of time and increased fragmentation (being seen by multiple providers) can lead to ineffective communications at a time when this communication is more important than ever."

"We are in the eye of the storm," said activist Gregg Gonzales with the Treatment Action Group (TAG). "We have bought ourselves some time" with protease inhibitors. But he warned, "The 20th century has been one of incredible hubris when it comes to pestilence. We thought we had beaten common bacterial infections and defeated things like tuberculosis with antibiotics. And malaria with drugs and pesticides."

"But in each of those cases, it is the bug that has had the last laugh and roared back with a most sophisticated attack." ▼

Katz to serve as city's interim health director

Dr. Mitch Katz, director of community health and safety in the newly reorganized San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH), was named interim Health Director Tuesday, July 15 at the Health Commission meeting. Outgoing Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez made the announcement at her last meeting as the city's top public health official. Mayor Willie Brown and the commission were also involved in the decision.

Katz and Hernandez, both of whom are openly gay, have worked together for several years; both at the AIDS Office, which she used to run, and as practicing physicians at San Francisco General Hospital, where they treat AIDS patients on Ward 86.

Brown is expected to announce Hernandez's permanent successor soon; the Health Commission must approve Brown's choice.

"Dr. Katz is both a colleague and a friend," said Hernandez in making the announcement. "There are few clinicians, leaders, and administrators for whom I have as much respect as I do Dr. Katz." ▼

— Cynthia Laird

\$290K in SF CARE funds to go to direct financial help for PWAs

by Cynthia Laird

Approximately \$290,000 in unallocated Ryan White CARE money will be used for direct emergency financial assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties, the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council overwhelmingly decided Monday, July 14. Of the remaining \$637,839 in unspent 1997-98 CARE funds, between \$250,000 and \$300,000 will fund a shallow rent subsidy program, while about \$50,000 will fund perinatal and pediatric services.

Monday's council meeting was well-attended: 28 of the 33 active members were there, and many community groups and individuals sat in the audience. The meeting marked the first of what will become weekly sessions through August as the council deliberates over prioritization of CARE funds for the next funding cycle.

The council first learned of the unallocated money last month. Since then, the council's PWA (people living with AIDS) Caucus has convened several meetings and ultimately drafted the proposal that was approved 21-2 Monday. The only no votes came from Barbara Garcia and Barry

Savage. Mariam Farooq abstained.

San Mateo and Marin counties receive lump sums of CARE money each year and comprise the eligible metropolitan area (EMA) with San Francisco. The PWA Caucus strongly supported using the one-time financial assistance funds throughout the EMA.

"It is our intent to get this money into the hands of PWAs as much as possible, with as little of this money taken up by overhead as possible," said member Will Carter.

The council cannot specify which organization will be awarded CARE money. But since

the motion directed the AIDS Office to quickly allocate the money, most likely that will be done through an existing contractor, such as AIDS Emergency Fund, which is an example of an agency that provides direct emergency financial assistance to its clients. Currently, AEF receives CARE funds, but they are designated for housing grants.

Monday's decision will allow the extra CARE funds to be used for several things, including housing, rent, utilities, medications, or other critical needs based on federal guidelines for CARE service categories.

Regarding the shallow rent subsidy program approved earlier

this year, council co-chair Norm Nickens said the AIDS Office is in the midst of contract negotiations. The program was initially slated to start this month, and while that is certainly still possible, Nickens said it will probably be the end of July or perhaps August before eligible recipients get their subsidies. ▼

Please note location change for the planning council's next meeting on Monday, July 21, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, third floor conference room.

AIDS programs get more federal money

by Bob Roehr

AIDS hit the financial jackpot at budgetary mark-ups on Capitol Hill on July 15. There will be \$250 million more in funding next year over the current budget, if Congress goes along with the House Appropriations subcommittee, as seems likely. The biggest chunk goes to funding the Ryan White Care Act, which will reach \$996.3 million in appropriations.

The AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) got the major piece of the pie, a 79 percent increase, all \$132 million that the ADAP Working Group had made a case was needed. "It's rare in this atmosphere to get what you ask for, to the penny, and have the chair say, you deserve it," said Bill Arnold, cochair of the Group.

"We owe (Appropriations subcommittee chair John) Porter (R-Illinois) big time. Sticking his neck out on something like this was not particularly easy, especially in the context of the balanced budget amendment. And of course, the Administration didn't do a fucking thing." The Clinton

White House refused to support the ADAP increase.

Daniel Zingale, executive director of the AIDS Action Council, was "elated" with the results. "Fortunately, many of our elected officials—especially Rep. Porter—understand the correlation between a sustained federal investment in AIDS research, prevention, housing, and care, and the dramatic drop in AIDS deaths announced yesterday at our State of AIDS Forum."

He estimated that the increase "could allow overburdened, cash-strapped ADAPs to continue to provide medications to over 80,000 Americans living with HIV/AIDS."

Most other AIDS programs received a 4-5 percent increase in funding. That includes research at the National Institutes of Health, which will grow by \$73 million. The increases were significant in the face of grumbling by a few members of Congress that AIDS receives too much money relative to other diseases. Rep. Ernest Istook (R-Oklahoma) made those arguments in an article in the July 14 issue of the newspaper *Roll Call*. "Chairman Porter has shown

true humanitarian leadership where the Clinton administration has only offered lofty rhetoric," said Rich Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans. "The only thing worse than the Clinton administration's lack of leadership on this issue is the lack of criticism against the White House from AIDS and gay organizations who have so visibly supported this President."

The Human Rights Campaign was more restrained. Senior health policy analyst Seth Kilbourn said, "The subcommittee did the right thing" in increasing ADAP. But he was "concerned" that prevention activities at the Centers for Disease Control were increased by only \$5 million. However, may AIDS groups have questioned the accountability and effectiveness of the CDC's preven-

tion activities.

AIDS lobbyists were also pleased that no amendments were offered which would have restricted the administration's ability to lift the ban on federal funding for needle exchange programs. They expect that a "clean" bill will survive the full House because of the rules under which it operates, but are unsure of what may happen in the Senate. ▼

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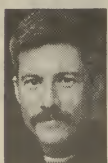
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OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Gary Alan Brigham
 March 10, 1959 - July 13, 1997


Gary Alan Brigham died peacefully in the home that he loved and in the loving presence of his partner and family after a two-year battle with AIDS-related lymphoma. Throughout his illness, Gary exemplified tremendous strength, courage and compassion for those who loved him and for those who provided for his care.

Gary was born in Indianapolis, Ind. He attended Southern Illinois University where he received a B.S. in microbiology in 1981. Later that year, Gary moved to Chicago where he began his career in the banking industry.

In 1987, Gary relocated to San

Diego, Calif., where he began his successful tenure in management with Great Western Bank. Upon transferring to San Francisco in 1991, he was elevated to assistant vice president of the Great Western Branch at Stockton Street. He was promoted to branch vice president at Irving Street in 1994, and was extremely successful until illness forced him to retire in 1995.

Gary is survived by Joe McMurray, his partner of 5-1/2 years; his father, Robert Brigham; brothers, Tom and John; and sisters, Janis, Nancy and Cynthia Wallace. Gary was predeceased by his mother, Betty.

Visitation services were held at Arthur J. Sullivan & Co. Funeral Home on July 16. The memorial services will take place today (July 17) at Metropolitan Community Church at 5:30 p.m., followed by a reception at Gary and Joe's residence. For further information, call 863-4436 or 661-1765.

Donations in Gary's memory should be sent in care of Joe McMurray to 227 Vicente Street, San Francisco, CA 94127.

David J. Chick

Nov. 16, 1942 - July 10, 1997

David kept his delightful New Hampshire accent even though his heart belonged to the Bay Area for over 30 years. His devilish sense of humor and repartee amused his friends. Even in the hospital under adverse conditions, he kept his sense of humor and charmed his nurses. As the perpetual teenager, he kept us all laughing and on our toes.

Gardening became his passion when he acquired his "apple ranch" in Sebastopol. He developed an interest in drought-resistant and native California plants and created a beautiful garden club of the Redwood Association of Men (RAM), arranging visits to exotic and beautiful gardens from Sebastopol to Filoli.

He became an active leader in RAM, enjoying creating its newsletter, *RAM-page*. He participated in many of the RAM groups: the movie group, the

pinochle group and, at his young age, the Golden Guys.

An epicurean, he cooked delicious meals and served good wines. His aioli dip burned many a mouth which only asked for more.

His friends in California, France and Germany will sorely miss him. I will miss all the ways he helped me to enjoy life.

For information on a San Francisco memorial service, call Darril at 282-0306 and leave a message.

Joseph Colton III

Dec. 3, 1952 - July 9, 1997



Our friend, Joe Colton, lost the battle against the ravages of HIV on July 9. He was a resident of San Francisco since 1989. A talented stained glass artist, an excellent cook and a lover of the outdoors, he worked as an environmental consultant for Fugro-West and most recently with ENSR Consulting and Engineering.

Joe was born in Lawrence, Kan.; attended high school in Kettering, Ohio; completed a tour of duty in the U.S. Army; and graduated from Miami University of Ohio.

Joe is survived by his mother, Phyllis of West Carrollton, Ohio; his sister, Carol of Winamac, Ind.; brother, Bill of Dayton, Ohio; and brother, Matt of San Diego, Calif.; niece and nephews, Shal-lon, Brooks, Blake and Blair, all of Winamac, Ind. His West Coast family includes Joe, Jeffery, David, Arthur, Richard, Charles, Matthew, the Hetlands and many others.

Special thanks to Dr. Bill Kapla, and the Hospice staff, Laurie, Nina, Doris and Eugene.

A celebration of his life will take place in August. Call 863-6970 or 863-9772 for details. In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to the World Wildlife Fund or your favorite AIDS charity.

B. Randy Fowler

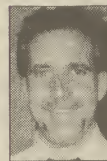
Sept. 16, 1957 - July 20, 1995



His smile could light up a room. His love and compassion made everyone feel special. He touched so many lives! — Mom and JJ

Matthew Robert Perry

Feb. 13, 1951 - March 26, 1997



On an early spring morning in March, Matthew finished his adventure in this world and started on a new one. Now he is dancing with the fairies and unicorns that were always around him.

Matthew made San Francisco his home 20 years ago by way of Boston. He started out in Oxford, Ohio, where both his parents, Dick and Jean, still live. He was a manager at the Jaguar Bookstore when it was still "that yellow Victorian on the corner." He also provided administrative support and comic relief at Ralph K. Davies Medical Center and UCSF. His proudest achievements were his friends, and a successful tax preparation and bookkeeping service that he worked on until the end.

Matthew will be remembered and missed as a romantic idealist who recognized the positive and the best in people. In a stressed and changing world, he gently paused to create or point out the magic in our lives. Now he is off creating magic in another adventure.

Matthew will be remembered at a get-together planned for July 27 at 2 p.m. Matthew had many friends, but he didn't always have their addresses, so for more information, please contact Rick at 415/626-3680.

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Women's Building's eviction of Dove Club comes to trial

by Cynthia Laird

The San Francisco Women's Building, a favorite meeting place for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and progressive groups since 1981, will be closed unless major structural retrofit work is completed to bring it up to code. As the Women's Building staff move forward with that project, an eviction trial is moving ahead against the building's one commercial tenant, the Dove Club.

The popular Irish bar has not had a lease on its space since 1989, but it is not going without a fight. Powerful patrons such as politico Jack Davis and columnist Warren Hinkle have successfully mobilized Dove Club supporters, causing those on the other side of the issue to organize as well.

On June 30, women and children rallied in front of San Francisco Superior Court to show their support for the two-year construction project. When completed, the project will provide the Women's Building with a licensed child care center, classrooms for afterschool programs, and expanded information and referral areas — but no Dove Club.

Numerous motions filed on behalf of the bar have delayed the eviction process, which started Wednesday, July 16, according to Rachel Timoner of the Women's Building.

Providing affordable child care for as many as 26 infants and children has become the focal point of the issue for Women's Building staff and supporters of the project, although administrators also

conceded that a bar just doesn't fit with the mission of the Women's Building. The building provides space for numerous groups, and many women attending are dealing with recovery issues or domestic violence as a result of alcohol abuse by their partners.

"It is difficult for them to walk by a bar everyday," Timoner said.

Child care was identified as the overwhelming need at several community meetings held last year, Timoner said.

Required to save the entrance

Despite the controversy's apparent center over alcohol use and child care, there are other important reasons for the Dove Club's eviction, supporters say. The building has been designated a Level I seismic risk by the city because it is constructed of unreinforced masonry. If seismic retrofit work is not started this summer, the building will be closed, Esperanza Macias, executive director, said.

In addition, plans to bring the building into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will require changes to the corner space presently occupied by the bar.

Macias pointed out that the Dove Club would have to relocate during the construction anyway. "During the construction process ... the corner space, which the Dove Club currently occupies, must be closed," she said.

When the project has been completed, there won't be room for the club because of steel bracing and support walls that will

"fundamentally change the corner space" and reduce the square footage.

"The inaccessible entrance to the corner space is a historic feature of the building which we are required to preserve. Therefore, the wall currently dividing the corner space from the lobby must be opened, allowing patrons of the corner space to enter through the front door ... and to use the wheelchair accessible bathrooms," said Macias.

The Women's Building serves more than 50,000 women, girls, and families annually. The Dove Club has also served as a neighborhood institution of sorts. Proprietor Paddy Nolan died last year, and with his passing went an unspoken agreement that the club could be in the Women's Building, some observers believe.

Last January, a community meeting was held specifically to discuss the Dove Club; Timoner said it had been hoped that some sort of solution could be worked out; it was not. She pointed out that several potential locations have been identified in the Mission where the bar could move.

Macias maintains the whole issue is not about the club closing, but "about Jack Davis and Warren Hinkle harassing and bullying women and children, and preventing the Women's Building from meeting the broad community's needs."

"The [Dove Club] patrons are very loyal, but at the same time, it's a sad commentary on society that individuals do not have the same — if not more — concern for services to children in this time of welfare cuts," Macias said. ▼

The advantages of NNRTIs

by Rob Sabados, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

In recent months, some in the AIDS community have discussed the idea of combining two or more members of the newest class of anti-HIV drugs, called non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors or NNRTIs. Because NNRTIs are highly potent, well-tolerated, and much less expensive than protease inhibitors and some nucleoside analogs, NNRTI combination therapy offers many advantages.

NNRTIs are a class of drugs that inhibit the HIV reverse transcriptase enzyme. While they are not as well-known as protease enzyme inhibitors, in many cases they are as potent at inhibiting HIV and are an important treatment option. Presently, there are two approved NNRTIs: nevirapine (marketed by Boehringer Ingelheim/Roxane Laboratories as Viramune) and delavirdine (marketed by Pharmacia & Upjohn as Rescriptor; also called U90152).

The availability of an increasing number of NNRTIs, combined with the growing number of patients who have failed or are intolerant to other anti-HIV drugs, will inevitably lead patients and physicians to experiment with combinations of NNRTIs. While the idea of combining NNRTIs seems surprising to some, many researchers and physicians previously questioned the idea of combining nucleoside analogs with protease inhibitors, or an NNRTI and a protease inhibitor, all of which are now accepted practices in AIDS treatment.

In addition to the two available NNRTIs, another four NNRTIs are currently undergoing human studies: DuPont Merck's DMP-266, Hoechst Bayer's HB097, Janssen's loviride, and Triangle Pharmaceutical's MKC-442. Finally, both Pharmacia & Upjohn and Uniroyal have in advanced pre-clinical development several new classes of NNRTIs which are apparently non-cross-resistant with earlier NNRTIs. Uniroyal's NNRTIs, called thiocarboxanilides, are currently named UC10, UC040, UC42, U84, and UC781.

The data? What data?

To date, there have been no human studies of the safety or efficacy of treating patients with multiple NNRTIs. Currently, Pharmacia & Upjohn and the Intercompany Collaborative (a group of drug companies) are both considering the idea of conducting human studies.

A review of medical literature found several in vitro (test tube) studies, with mixed results. Despite early disappointments, combinations utilizing new, more potent NNRTIs that are not cross-resistant are able to dramatically inhibit HIV-replication in vitro. For example, combinations of a thiocarboxanilide such as UC42 with an approved drug such as delavirdine are able to effectively suppress the virus, when combined with another drug such as 3TC. This suggests that NNRTI combination therapy may one day be an important part of treatment regimens.

While combinations of NNRTIs hold promise for the future, there is insufficient evidence to reach a recommendation regarding the combination of the two currently approved NNRTIs, nevirapine and delavirdine.

Some early studies, conducted with some of the first NNRTIs,

found only limited benefit from combining NNRTIs. Because the drugs apparently competed for the same binding site on reverse transcriptase enzyme, the total anti-HIV effect was only of the sum of effects of the individual drugs. (Balzarini, 1992). These studies, which included nevirapine, are supported by some later studies which found similar results when nevirapine was combined with the new NNRTI, MKC-442.

In 1995, Balzarini and colleagues found that the use of delavirdine (which they called BHAP) in combination with other NNRTIs (UC42 and another drug, called TSAO) lead to longer viral suppression and the need to use less drug. This led researchers to conclude it "points to the feasibility of two- or three- (NNRTI) combinations in preventing break-through and resistance development." (Balzarini, 1995). The positive results are due to the use of more potent NNRTIs and the lack of cross-resistance between the UC compounds and other NNRTIs.

In 1996, the same researchers published another study which found that the combination of one NNRTI with 3TC (marketed by Glaxo Wellcome as Lamivudine or Epivir) was particularly effective at suppressing viral replication. While the virus was eventually able to develop resistance, the virus was apparently unable to develop resistance when 3TC was combined with two NNRTIs, suggesting that this combination deserves further study. The triple combinations which effectively suppressed replication included UC42 and 3TC in combination with either delavirdine or MKC-442.

Finally, in vitro evidence suggests that the virus that develops resistance to one NNRTI may become more sensitive to another. For example, a 1993 study found that one of the mutations responsible for viral resistance to delavirdine actually makes the virus 7-10 fold more sensitive to other NNRTIs, such as nevirapine (Deweke, 1993). This would leave the virus with a no-win situation: the price of avoiding one potent antiviral drug is to become more vulnerable to another.

An interesting idea?

One drug industry researcher who supports the idea of studying NNRTIs together is Dr. Lynne Wathen, a senior researcher with Pharmacia & Upjohn. Dr. Wathen supports the idea of studying delavirdine in combination with other NNRTIs, stating that "We would like to study delavirdine with some of the newer, not yet approved non-nukes."

While some researchers are concerned that cross-resistance will limit the utility of NNRTI combinations, Wathen disagrees, stating, "It does look like there can be some additivity between non-nukes. Just because you become resistant to one NNRTI, that doesn't mean that another NNRTI won't work on those viral isolates." She points out that some patients who switched from delavirdine to nevirapine have experienced a greater than one-log drop, and the same has been seen in patients who have gone from nevirapine to delavirdine.

When choosing NNRTI combinations, she suggests that physicians and researchers consider the

drug's metabolic side-effects as well. According to Wathen, "You don't want two inhibitors. An inhibitor and an inducer would be a much better choice. However, the proof of this is to look at the antiviral effect." An inducer is a drug that causes other drugs to be metabolized more rapidly, such as nevirapine and DMP-266. An inhibitor is a drug that causes others to be metabolized more slowly, such as delavirdine and protease inhibitors such as Crixivan (indinavir).

On a more cautious note, Wathen points out that, with regards to combining NNRTIs, there is "no clinical experience [on which] to base decision-making." Because the primary side-effect of many NNRTIs is skin rash, Dr. Wathen is concerned that using them together could exacerbate the problem. According to Wathen, "The potential is there to get a severe rash from nevirapine, and a possibly more moderate rash from delavirdine. We don't know the risk of combining them."

An uninteresting idea?

Another pharmaceutical company researcher, Dr. Alan Goldberg, was much less enthusiastic. Dr. Goldberg is the Senior Director of Project Management at DuPont Merck, which is developing DMP-266.

According to Goldberg, DuPont Merck has "no studies planned to do combinations of

DMP-266 with any other NNRTI."

He said, "At this point in the development of DMP-266, the study of the drug in combination with protease inhibitors and with nucleoside analogs is more interesting and should provide more benefit."

Like Wathen, Goldberg is also concerned about the safety of combining NNRTIs, because combining two NNRTIs together might be much like giving a higher dose of one NNRTI, and "the concern would be the toxicity that would happen in people."

According to Goldberg, DuPont Merck is aggressively studying DMP-266 in combination with multiple nucleoside analogs and protease inhibitors.

Although NNRTIs are highly potent antiviral drugs, it is clear that they must be used in combination with one or more other drugs to avoid the rapid development of resistance.

Despite limited data, it is possible to make some prediction regarding the best drugs to use with NNRTIs.

While specific recommendations have been issued regarding the need for dose adjustments when combining protease inhibitors and NNRTIs, there is limited efficacy data regarding this combination. Initial studies have shown very positive results in patients who combined nucleoside analogs with

next page ►



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Cookie monstahs

by Jim Provenzano

Every night after practice, my teammates and I had Chinese dinners at South Gate Restaurant on 18th Street. Angela, our eternal waitress, liked us, but pretended not to. Most of us pretended to like the food.

"How many this time?" she would groan in mock exhaustion, for usually, as soon as we counted eight or nine, some straggler or old friend showed up. We generally took over the entire back room. We were sometimes loud and obnoxious. If you're looking for a quiet dining experience on a Tuesday or Friday evening, I suggest you go elsewhere.

We once took a picture of ourselves all drinking Oranginas, our favorite beverage, post-wrestling. We expected a corporate sponsorship.

That fortune may not turn up, but the smaller fortunes, those little strips of pink or white hope that are folded in cookies, I have saved, after every workout, for the last five years.

I have these little souvenirs, little tokens of my sweat, something that the pack rat in me can save. I have to find something worthwhile for every workout, to make it tangible. Increments, that is how progress is made, in a body, in a sport, and in a life.

I would like to make a new line of fortunes, such as "Ventilate frequently," "Sharp teeth will become essential," or "People who live in earthquake zones by the ocean should learn to swim."

But for now, these little scraps of paper serve as my talismans, little reminders that what I had been working for may be crazy, and silly, and just a hobby, but it also may be more than that, more than trying to fulfill the Ugly Duckling syndrome, to be the jock I never was.

I am speaking in the past tense, because wrestling is no longer my sport of choice. My body, and logic, told me to stop.

What have I got to prove for it?

A lot of chronic injuries, for one. And memories, the illusion of friendship that joining a team can bring. Oh, and a novel about a gay high school wrestler who is hounded to near-death by a few psychotic teammates.

There's that.

So I suppose those five years were just research.

Well, my homework's done.

Most regular sane people take up a sport, I think, to be liked, to form a clique, to make snapshots and memories. But one can't live off memories, when life and the creation of new memories asks for your attention. I've grown tired of biking home with more bruises and aches and sprains and persistent neck pain that makes me doubt the sanity of a 35-year-old man thinking he's a kid. I am not.

Barbara Kruger said, "You invent intricate rituals that allow you to touch the skin of other men."

I don't need a ritual to touch

other men. I don't like fighting. It is time to consider myself, and my bodily safety, and set some limits, and say "No." Pushing ourselves beyond our physical limits to prove something to other people is not healthy. I will miss some of the people. But most? Most were purely fair weather friends, people who don't care whether I live or die, who only care what I did on the mat, and I guess that's what matters, what you do in the sport.

But being a gay social group, other elements enter into the team, particularly one that's run by a Republican NRA supporter with fascist tendencies. I mean, let's face it, as an ACT

UP alumnus, I'm a little tired of fighting a bunch of semi-closeted, gynophobic, conservative, repressed gays, particularly some of the less sane members.

To my now-former team members, I say, go forth and multiply your injuries. You deserve them. And yet, I still have those fortunes.

But I won't miss the lousy Chinese food.

A delay is better than a disaster.

A good bee never takes pollen from a fallen flower.

Adventure can be real happiness.

All your hard work will soon pay off.

Beauty in its various forms appeals to you.

Being faithful to a trust brings its

own rewards.

Depart not from the path which fate has you assigned.

Don't let doubt and suspicion bar your progress.

Don't let unexpected situations "throw" you.

Failure teaches success.

Follow your heart and you will find happiness.

Friends long absent are coming back to you.

Generosity and perfection are your everlasting goals.

Get off to a new start. Come out of your shell.

Get your mind set.

Confidence will lead you on.

Good fortune awaits you at the end of the day.

Good news from afar can bring you a welcome visitor.

Good news will come to you from far away.

Happy event will take place shortly in your home.

He who does not accept cash when offered is no businessman.

He who suffers remembers.

How you look depends on where you go.

In jealousy there is more self-love than love.

It is a simple task to make things complex, but a complex task to make them simple.

It is easier to make friends than keep them.

Knowledge is priceless.

Listen not to vain words of empty tongue.

Many possibilities are open to you.

Now is the time to try something new.

One that is slow to wrath is of great understanding.

Opportunity knocks only once. Be alert.

Pray for what you want, but work for what you need.

Someone will be very proud of you.

Something special is coming your way.

The actions of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts.

The current year will bring you much happiness.

The only way to have a friend is

to be one.

The only way to success is through ambition and hard work.

The philosophy of one century in the common sense of the next.

The time is right to reach your goals.

There is a prospect of a thrilling time ahead for you.

There is yet time enough for you to take a different path.

Those who are contented are never poor.

To give happiness is to deserve happiness.

We must always have old memories and young hopes.

When one is wise one is lucky.

Who bravely dares must sometimes risk of a fall.

Wise men learn more from fools than fools from the wise.

You are a perfectionist. Don't spoil it.

You are never selfish with your advice or your help.

You constantly struggle for self-improvement.

You have a deep appreciation of the arts and music.

You have a keen sense of humor and love a good time.

You have an important new business development shaping up.

You have an unusual magnetic personality.

You have remarkable power which you are not using.

You will always be surrounded by true friends.

You will be married in less than a year.

You will finally solve a difficult problem that will mean much to you.

You will have a fine capacity for the enjoyment of life.

You will have a very pleasant experience.

You will reach high levels of intelligence.

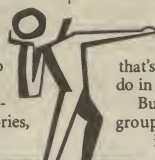
You will soon gain something you have always wanted.

You will step on the soil of many countries.

You will have a long and prosperous life.

Your curiosity may mean success.

Your winsome smile will be your sure protection. ▼



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PAGE
Associates Inc.

ACT UP

◀ previous page

Crixivan (indinavir) and either nevirapine or delavirdine.

Available evidence suggests that although some nucleoside analogs, such as AZT and 3TC, work well with NNRTIs, ddI does not.

Multiple in vitro and human studies have found that the use of NNRTIs with AZT (zidovudine, Retrovir) is able to delay the development of NNRTI resistance and actually re-sensitize the virus to AZT. One in vitro study (Larder, 1992) found that the development of a mutation which commonly occurs with the use of NNRTIs, called Y181Cm, can delay or reverse the development or resistance to AZT. Because this mutation occurs with most NNRTIs, with the possible exception of nevirapine, this benefit could be expected from most NNRTIs. This finding is supported by human studies presented at the 1997 Retroviruses Conference.

Researchers found that delavir-

dine re-sensitized resistant virus to AZT, causing the virus to become 86 times more susceptible to AZT. In another study, researchers found that while 14% of patients receiving AZT monotherapy became resistant within six months, none of those receiving AZT and delavirdine developed AZT resistance.

While AZT and 3TC seem to work well with NNRTIs, ddI (didanosine, Videx) is another story. According to the Larder study, combining ddI with either nevirapine or another NNRTI did not offer any benefit with regards to delaying the development of resistance. Similarly, a large (1,190 patient) study that compared the combination of delavirdine and ddI found the combination offered only a transient benefit in CD4 count and viral load; there was no difference in disease progression and death between the two arms. A smaller human study (Demeter, 1997) found that, unlike AZT, the use of ddI with delavirdine did not prevent the development of resistance. ▼

CDC verifies first case of HIV by kissing

UPI Science News

Federal health officials have reported the first documented case of HIV infection by kissing — when a woman got the AIDS virus by kissing an HIV-positive man.

However, the report, released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta Wednesday, July 10, says the virus was transmitted by blood from bad gums — not by saliva alone.

Federal researchers told United Press International that the woman was most likely infected by exposure to the man's blood-contaminated saliva during regular episodes of passionate kissing that took place between July 1994

and July 1995.

As reported in the CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, the man reported that his gums frequently bled after he brushed and flossed his teeth, and that the kissing episodes usually happened after he had brushed.

Dr. Scott Holmberg, a CDC epidemiologist, told UPI that while the exact route of transmission "could not be determined with certainty, the most likely possibility is that the woman was infected through her mucous membrane."

Holmberg says the woman admits she once used the man's toothbrush and razor, but could not recall exactly when.

Holmberg says the case "adds as yet one more piece of evidence that HIV infection can be acquired

through the mouth." DNA tests prove that the virus in the woman's blood came from the man.

Holmberg says that the incident will not change the CDC's position on kissing. "Social kissing is not a risk for transmission of HIV."

He added the CDC continues to recommend against "French" or open-mouth kissing with an HIV-positive person, because of the potential contact with blood.

Officials have documented rare cases of bite-related transmission of HIV involving exposure to blood-contaminated saliva. Saliva itself usually inhibits HIV, and when HIV is found in saliva it is usually at a low level. Of the 500,000 AIDS cases reported to the CDC, none have been attributed to exposure to saliva. ▼

McDonald's

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they didn't want Valuable Families on McDonald's premises."

Dewey said the manager did offer to donate McDonaldland toys "to sell at a church or somewhere," but she refused.

A 'misunderstanding'

On Thursday, July 10, Valuable Families members staged a press conference in front of the restaurant to express their outrage. They were backed by numerous other community groups in Northampton, as well as representatives from the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, P-FLAG, and Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition International.

"We've been working for two years to be a community presence by building coalitions with other groups in the community," Dewey said. "So we [also] got a lot of support from non-gay and lesbian themed organizations. McDonalds never expected that."

So ten minutes before the press conference, she said, a re-

gional marketing manager for McDonalds, Kim Hopkins Hennig, invited her into the restaurant and sat down to talk.

"She sat me down at a table and said, as they've been telling the press, that it was a big 'misunderstanding,'" Dewey said. "She said it was all because they thought we were too small an organization."

Interestingly enough, a local newspaper had incorrectly printed Valuable Families' membership as 500 members, when it is actually made of about 550 families, or more than 1,200 members.

Dewey said Hennig offered a personal apology and said it was not McDonalds policy to discriminate on sexual orientation or any other basis. So Dewey invited Hennig outside with her to take part in the press conference. She said Hennig repeated to reporters that McDonalds has a zero-tolerance policy for its employees against discrimination of any kind.

"We went outside, and I said that she had apologized to me personally," Dewey said. "She nodded the whole time. She didn't apologize again to the press,

but we're taking the personal apology as enough."

"We're looking at this as a huge victory, that we got corporate McDonalds to apologize to us," she said.

The group planned to hold its fundraiser on Tuesday, July 15. Dewey said the group didn't know how much money it might raise, but the whole episode has been more valuable than just the funds coming to the group.

"It was never about the money," she said. "It was about our organization being just like any other organization in the community. We'd been working with other organizations in our community, many of whom have done the same thing at McDonalds."

Dewey said that alliance with other community groups is what she thought really caught McDonalds' attention and helped Valuable Families come out on top.

"This was a great lesson to us," Dewey said. "As gay people, the best thing we can do is help out our neighbors or join these other groups to work with, and it'll come back to us." ▼

Flight of the Phoenix



The Phoenix, a popular Castro Street gay bar of long duration, closed earlier this month because, according to city officials, structural building problems rendered the site a hazard. Efforts are underway to preserve the bar's historic '60s artwork from a previous incarnation. Word on the street has it that the neighboring Walgreen's plans to expand into the space.

Rick Gerbner

Versace

◀ page 1

help track down Cunanan.

An NBI spokesman told United Press International, "We are on alert. We had received information about him even before the death of Gianni Versace."

Chambliss of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement said it was possible Cunanan took a jetliner out of Miami within hours after the crime.

"It's certainly a possibility he is still in this area," Chambliss said, "but we are trying to disseminate

as much information throughout the state as we can."

Cunanan lived in San Diego and was a frequent visitor to San Francisco before his alleged crime spree, causing some of his former friends in the Bay Area to fear for their safety during his time on the run. Last week the FBI reported he had been spotted in the Oklahoma City area.

A memorial service for Versace will be held in Miami Beach on Friday. The National Italian American Foundation also has announced plans to posthumously confer its U.S./Italy Friendship Award to the designer in October. ▼

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214990

The following person(s) are doing business as ROMGOD RECORDS, 1093 Hampshire St., San Francisco, CA 94110: Todd R. Moore, 1093 Hampshire, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Todd R. Moore. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1997. June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214896

The following person(s) are doing business as INCARNA LLC, 625 Scott Street, #304, San Francisco, CA 94117: Incarna LLC, CA 625 Scott Street, #304, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 13, 1997. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed Frank W. Early, partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 16, 1997. June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214930

The following person(s) are doing business as FOOTPRINTS ON THE PAVEMENT, 1515 Sutter Street, #218, San Francisco, CA 94109: Robert C. Bills, 1515 Sutter

Street #218, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert C. Bills. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 17, 1997. June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214506

The following person(s) are doing business as 1. CARLA'S ROCKET ROTTER 2. ROCKET ROTTER, 1809 19th St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Weldone Deatherage, 225 Beachview Ave., Pacifica, CA 94044. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Weldone Deatherage. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 2, 1997. June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215252

The following person(s) are doing business as CRUNCHY'S VENDING, 639 Geary St. #507, San Francisco, CA 94102: Paul Leon Grattarola, 639 Geary St. #507, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Paul L. Grattarola. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City

and County of San Francisco, CA on June 30, 1997. July 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME 166460

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as NICO'S, 634 Cortland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: September 15, 1992. FRANK A. FASANO, 837 Peralta Ave., San Francisco CA 94110. This business was conducted by an individual. Signed Frank A. Fasano, owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date July 26, 1997 Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk-Recorder, by Dema Wong. July 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 987751

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of KANAN YEAR for change of name. The application of KANAN YEAR for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that KANAN YEAR has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to LINDA MONICA YEAR. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in

LEGAL NOTICES

said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 11th day of August, 1997, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated the 26th day of June, 1997. July 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Date of Filing Application: June 20, 1997. To Whom It May Concern: The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: PACIFIC POWERHOUSE PARTNERSHIP L PSHIP. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 900 NORTH POINT ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109. For the following type of License: 47.0N: SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE. July 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215376

The following person(s) are doing business as DERAPAGE, 225 Fell St., #22, San Francisco, CA 94102: Mark William Sommerfield, 225 Fell St., #22, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 1, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Mark Sommerfield. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 3, 1997. July 10, 17, 24, 31, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214994

The following person(s) are doing business as ANDERSON KILL & OLICK, Citicorp Center, one Sansome Street, Suite 1610, San Francisco, CA 94104: Stanzler, P.C. (California), Citicorp Center, One Sansome Street, Suite 1610, San Francisco, CA 94104: Anderson Kill & Ollick, P.C. (New

York), 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 1, 1996. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Lori C. Seegers, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1997. July 10, 17, 24, 31, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215180

The following person(s) are doing business as SPP INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, 235 Pine Street, Suite 1475, San Francisco, CA 94104: SPP Real Estate (Management-USA), Inc., a Delaware corporation, 235 Pine Street, Suite 1475, San Francisco, CA 94104. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 1, 1997. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Laura S. Brom, Chief Financial Officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 26, 1997. July 10, 17, 24, 31, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215410

The following person(s) are doing business as YERBA BUENA PUBLISHING COMPANY, 111 Jones St. #512, San Francisco, CA 94102-3965: Thomas J. McCarthy, 111 Jones St. #512, San Francisco, CA 94102-3965. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 7, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Thomas J. McCarthy. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 7, 1997. July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 215607

The following person(s) are doing business as FILLMORE FINE FOOD, 1981 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115: Fuad Issa Dughman, 5 Belmont Dr., Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business

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LEGAL NOTICES

under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 25, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Fudal I. Dughman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 11, 1997. July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 987895

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of D'ANDRE LAMAR BROWN-MINOR by and through DIANA BLAIR-MOTHER for change of name. The application of D'ANDRE LAMAR BROWN-MINOR by and through DIANA BLAIR-MOTHER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that DIANA BLAIR has filed an application proposing that HER SON'S name be changed to JULIAN ALEXANDER BROWN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 15th day of August, 1997, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated the 2nd day of July, 1997. July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 988117

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISIO for change of name. The application of ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISIO for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISIO has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to ROMEO BALDEVISIO-SALVITTI. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 29th day of August, 1997, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated the 14th day of July, 1997. July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 1997.



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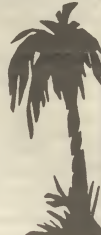
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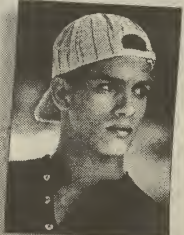
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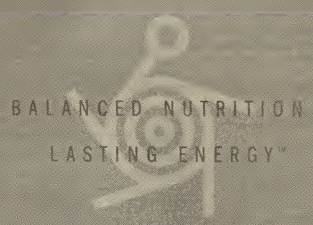
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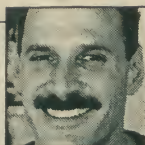
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Writer Emma Donoghue's latest work, *'Kissing the Witch,'* is a collection of classic fairy tales told with a twist.
page 41

Shimon Attie's art of memory on display in '97 Jewish Film Festival.
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'Kiss Me, Guido' is a first for Paramount and director Tony Vitale.
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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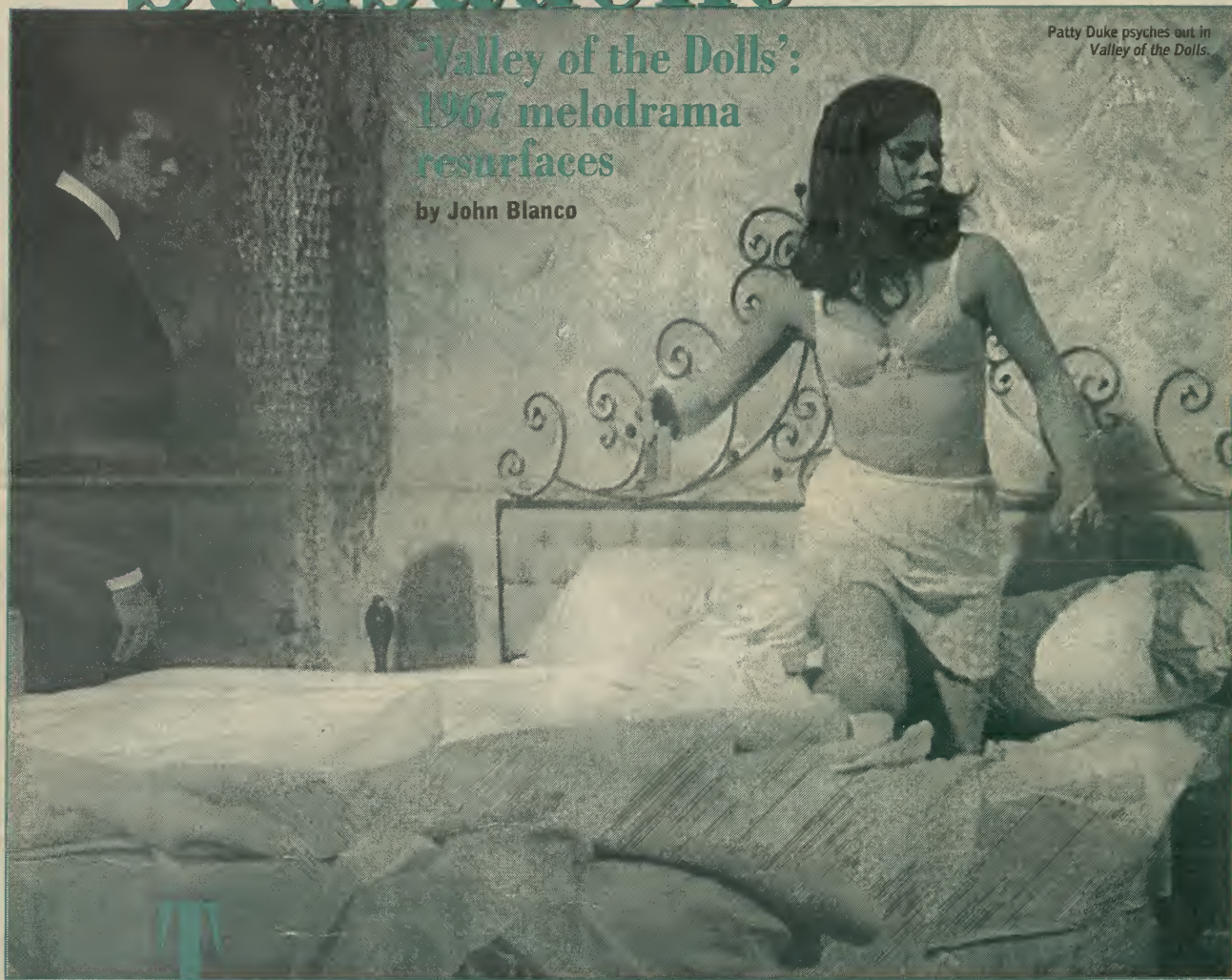
Vol. 27 • No. 29 • 17 July 1997

Sudsadelic

**'Valley of the Dolls':
1967 melodrama
resurfaces**

by John Blanco

Patty Duke psyches out in
Valley of the Dolls.



The 1967 film adaptation of Jacqueline Susann's *Valley of the Dolls* is a spicy potboiler that plays like a comedy. It's filled with performances of unbridled theatricality that rarely convince but always entertain. It's rife with scenes of sex and pill-popping that aim to titillate but merely tickle. For some, it may be a bad film, but — in the parlance of Susann — it's bad in all the best ways.

We now recognize *Valley of the Dolls* as high camp, but critics at the time of the film's release were unwilling to acknowledge the movie's campy virtues. *Variety* called it "a sex-teasing, talky sudser." In one of his last reviews, *The New York Times'* relic Bosley Crowther, who had destroyed his career a few months earlier by dismissing *Bonnie and Clyde*, wrote that *Valley of the Dolls* was "as phony and old-fashioned as anything Lana Turner ever did."

Although intended as a put-down, Crowther's description of the film actually pinpoints its appeal. The reason the Mark Robson-directed movie works so well is that it's true to the conventions of old-fashioned melodrama — broad characterizations, soap-opera plotting, and overripe dialogue. Despite throwing in daring and "with-it" plot elements such as drug addiction and pre-marital sex, the movie is a throwback to the cautionary tales of Hollywood's Golden Age. Its cinematic inspirations are *A Star Is Born*, *The Bad and the Beautiful*, and *The Barefoot Contessa*, films which purported to expose the dark side

When Duke and Hayward come together toward the end of the film for a face-slapping, wig-pulling cat-fight, it's as if the scene were being played by a couple of seasoned drag queens.

page 38 ►

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OUT THERE

by Chris Culwell
and Pithy Galore

In case you haven't yet noticed, **Jacqueline Susann's** torrid campsterpiece *Valley of the Dolls* is celebrating its 30th birthday this week. Yet, while most films look pretty dated by their third decade, *Dolls* is showing surprisingly few wrinkles. The book, which will be reissued this fall, and the film have held up so well mostly because *Valley of the Dolls* says something essential about America's favorite pastimes: sex, drugs, and the desire for unlimited glamour and fame. In *Dolls*, Susann turns this obsession into a mantra for the working-class female. Writer **Wendy Leigh** hit the nail on the head in a hilarious piece about Susann in last week's *London Sunday Times*. "I write for women who read me in the goddam subways on the way home from work," Leigh quoted Susann as once having said. "I know who they are, because that's who I used to be. They want to press their noses against the windows of other people's houses. But here's the catch. All the people they envy in my books, the ones who are glamorous, or beautiful, or rich, or talented — they have to suffer, see, because that way the people who read me can get off the subway and go home feeling better about their own crappy lives."

Susann was obviously not one to set limits on herself, and, indeed, she turned even the smallest things in her life into the grandest of delusions. For instance, Leigh reports that when one of Jackie's 1963 book tours coincided with **JFK's** assassination, she "tore into her publisher's office screaming, 'Why the fuck does this have to happen to me? This is going to ruin my tour!'" And after the death of her precious poodle **Josephine**, the subject of Susann's bestselling book *Every Night, Josephine*, Susann blubbered, "I tried to be brave. I tried to think of **Jackie Kennedy** and **Mrs. Martin Luther King**."

But Jackie's biggest flight of fancy was undoubtedly her absurd assertion that "The 1960s will be remembered for three people: me, **Andy Warhol** and the Beatles." Well, not quite, darling. *Camp* magazine places Susann at #72 on its list of the 100 most popular personalities of the '60s. Her placement in-between **Joan Crawford** (#71) and **Milton Berle** (#73) somehow seems a more logical assessment of history than Jackie's.



Bette Midler

But don't expect Jackie with an S to go away anytime soon. Leigh reports that a movie about Susann, "possibly starring **Bette Midler**," is in the works, as is a television miniseries starring **Michelle Lee**, of Broadway and *Knots Landing* fame.



Jacqueline Susann

James Dean lives

Like Jacqueline Susann and *Dolls*, **James Dean** is another American idol that refuses to fade away. Only Dean's legend may prove even harder than Jackie's. According to a recent Internet story, a new Dean biopic may be in the works from Warner Bros. Word has it that actor **Stephen Dorff**, recently seen in *I Shot Andy Warhol*, has snagged the juicy part of Dean, but not before dozens of other actors test-

screened for the role, including **Val Kilmer** and **Leonardo DiCaprio**. Too bad the powers-that-be on this project didn't test-screen gritty Brit beauty **Ewan McGregor**, who looks a helluva lot more like Dean than the aforementioned thespians. Furthermore, what we saw of McGregor in *The Pillow Book* suggests he'd certainly be up to meeting certain other requirements of the role, too.

(By the way, cyberumors indicate that DiCaprio, though fa-

vored for the part, ultimately didn't test well, which is hardly surprising. He's about as evocative of studly Dean as Pithy Galore, or in other words, not at all. Kilmer was passed over because of typically insane demands, like requiring that the temperature of the test studio be kept at 65 degrees and that all high-powered halogen lamps be turned away from his face.)

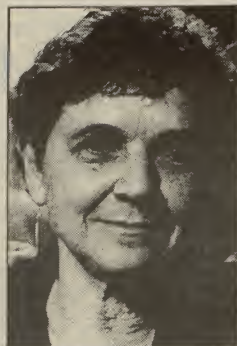
Rich in spirit

Each year the NEA, once again under siege, makes recommendations to the prez on who should receive the National Endowment for the Arts Medal. This year, one of the 12 recipients of the prize, feminist poet **Adrienne Rich**, refused the award in protest of what she says is our government's policies of making the rich richer and the poor poorer.

"When growing numbers of people are being marginalized, impoverished, scapegoated, and beleaguered, I don't feel I can accept an award from the government pursuing these policies," the 68-year-old poet and author of 22 books said last week.

"The radical disparities of wealth and power in America are widening at a devastating rate. A president cannot meaningfully honor certain token artists while the people at large are so dishonored."

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Adrienne Rich

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VALLEY OF THE BALLS

page 56

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Hits and misses

by Chad Jones

Every once in a while, the glamorous glory days of cabaret are conjured by certain performers, **Julie Wilson**, **Bobby Short**, **Rosemary Clooney**, to name but a few. Cabaret today is more commonly songs performed with polish and pizzazz, but not necessarily with glamour. Singer/songwriter **Amanda McBroom** falls nicely in-between both the above categories. She cuts an elegant figure in a not too showy silk pantsuit, but her approach to entertaining, though certainly polished, is down to earth.

McBroom was in town last year for an under-attended gig at the Fairmont's New Orleans Room. She's back, this time at the Plush Room, which is a better room for her. She seems much more comfortable here and is able to connect more fully with her audience, an important factor when one sings emotional songs with McBroom's intensity. Aside from a schmaltzy opening number about becoming a kite with "rainbow wings," McBroom's set is a nicely balanced collection of the singer's own compositions, from the emotional storytelling of "Errol Flynn," a tribute to her father, who acted in several films with Flynn, to the bawdy good humor of "(I Want to Be) Round," a musical diatribe against waif models.

The singer's biggest hit remains "The Rose," first sung by **Bette Midler** and now belted nightly in karaoke bars around the world. Like **Judy Garland** did with "Over the Rainbow," McBroom sings her trademark number at the end of her show. If she's sick of the song, it doesn't show.

Of the numbers she didn't write, **Rupert Holmes'** "People You Never Get to Love," is a real find, one McBroom performs beautifully, and her "Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most" is especially suited to her vocal range. Of the songs she wrote, the best is "Dance," a wrenching saga of marriage grown tired. A new collaboration with **Fran Landesman** for which McBroom provided music, "Rhymes at Midnight," could become a minor standard.

McBroom's accompanist is **Joel Silberman**, a gifted pianist with whom the singer has worked for seven years. Their fondness for one another and trust in each other's musicality make for a strong partnership and good music.

In addition to being one of the most engaging performers around, McBroom is also a gifted songwriter who is doing her part to keep the Great American Songbook alive. McBroom's show at the Plush Room in the York Hotel



John Warren, Ron Johnson, Edward Graham, and Jessica Cooke.

continues through July 20. Call 885-2800 for reservations.

A musical drag

If you've seen the posters for the new musical comedy *Jane Loves Dick* you might have assumed the show was another San Francisco drag musical. Well, think again. The show comes to us from Fort Lauderdale's Public Theatre, so it isn't home-grown, and the Jane of the title, a gal with a 40-inch bust looking for love, is played by a real woman, **Jessica Cooke**. And describing the show as a musical comedy is inaccurate on both counts.

With music, lyrics, and book by **Vince Rhombert**, who also takes "credit" for direction and choreography, *Jane Loves Dick* is two hours of non-stop mediocrity. It's the kind of light and frothy musical that Theatre Rhinoceros has been doing — with better results — once per season. The story of the heartily endowed Jane moving to San Francisco in order to escape being merely a sex object is a big *Beauty and the Beast* lesson about how appearances don't matter and we're all beautiful on the inside. The bad guy here, as in Disney's animated musical, is a muscleman named Bob, who hires Jane to work in his health food shop, where he proceeds to sexually harass her.

One of Jane's roommates, **Richard (Ron Johnson)**, a wimpy biochemist who creates formulas for breakfast cereal, can't bear to see the woman he loves treated so crassly, so he formulates a Jekyll/Hyde concoction that transforms him into a superhero. Captain Wham saves the day while capturing the heart of the heroine. Meanwhile, Jane's other roommate, **Gare (Edward Graham)**, minces, flounces, and lisps his way through horrendous lines like, "Well, slap me silly and call me insensitive."

Even though the wretched Bob is treating his good friend Jane like dirt, it's all Gare can do to keep from drooling over the big brute. While the plot attempts to celebrate inner beauty, the crackling gay stereotype is only interested in ogling muscles and making wisecracks. It's all very tired.

Jane Loves Dick wants to be *Little Shop of Horrors* — bouncy, upbeat numbers, comedy, and swoony ballads. It doesn't even come close. And with all the flip discussion of appearances, big busts, and overdeveloped muscles, the whole evening verges on offensive. If there were any comedy involved, the offense might generate laughs, but comedy has yet to find *Jane Loves Dick*, which continues at the Victoria Theatre through August 10. For information, call 575-0243.



Weslia Whitfield

A paean to Weslia

Whenever **Weslia Whitfield** releases a new CD, attention must be paid. *Teach Me Tonight*, Whitfield's 10th album, and her first for High Note Records, captures the singer in all her swinging, melodic, interpretive magnificence. The record dutifully records many of the songs featured in her winter cabaret show at the Plush Room. The album's best cut is "I've Heard

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EVENT

Bibliophilia by the Bay

Books by the Bay, the second annual free book fair, returns to San Francisco's Embarcadero boardwalk Saturday, July 19 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Sponsored by the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association, the open-air book fair will feature 35 bookstore booths, 30 author readings and signings, live jazz, and a poetry hour, all adjacent to the Ferry Building and across from the Farmer's Market.

Featured authors will include Martin Cruz Smith, Chitra Divakaruni, Laurie King, Steve Lopez, and gay writers Francisco X. Alarcón, Forrest Hammer, and Sandy Boucher.

Books by the Bay will also showcase the diversity of locally owned and operated bookstores, including A Different Light Bookstore. For more information, call 927-3937. ▼

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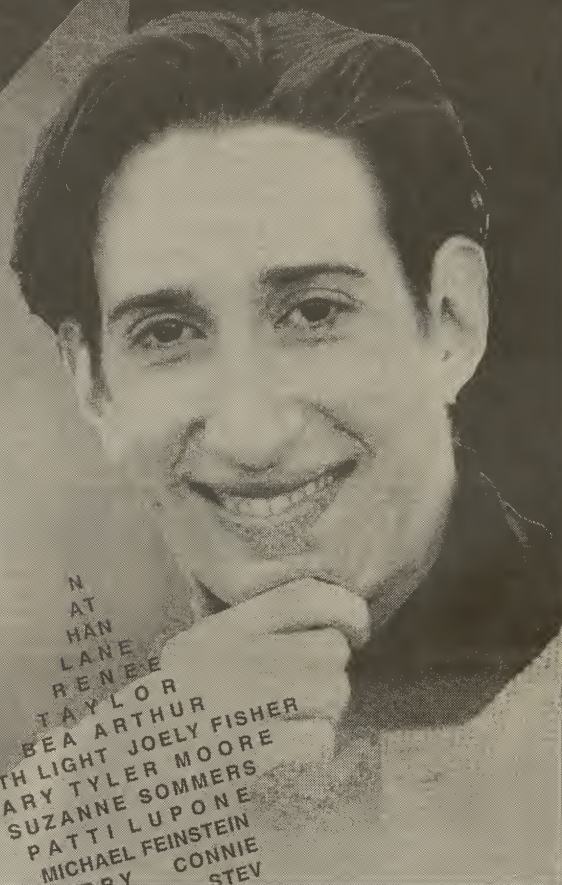
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Forever ridiculous

Danny Scheie triumphs in Ludlam's 'The Mystery of Irma Vep'

by Chad Jones

The term summer camp will gain new meaning now that the late gay playwright Charles Ludlam's *The Mystery of Irma Vep* has crossed the bridge from its East Bay home at the Aurora Theatre to the roomier confines of the Magic Theatre, where the play is finishing off the Magic

II parallel theater season.

The Mystery of Irma Vep was written by camp master Ludlam in 1984 for his Ridiculous Theatrical Company, which he founded in New York in 1969. The two-person, multi-character, quasi drag farce is, like much of Ludlam's work, rife with puns, satire, reversals of logic, and literary allusions. In Ludlam's world, altered versions of classic plays, novels, and

films formed a sort of revisionist strategy to fight "a silent war waged against anyone who's different." Ludlam's death from AIDS in 1987 hasn't stopped the Ridiculous Theatrical Company, which continues under the leadership of Ludlam's long-time lover and collaborator, Everett Quinton.

Irma Vep, based loosely on a fictional horror figure from French literature (also the basis of the new Olivier Assayas film), is a quintessential horror/mystery about a bride who arrives at her brooding husband's estate, Mandacrest, and falls under the spell of the previous wife, the alluringly mysterious and freshly deceased Irma Vep. Throw in a matronly housekeeper (shades of *Rebecca's* Mrs. Danvers), a wily groundskeeper named Nicodemus, a spirit-raising journey to Egypt, and the odd werewolf or two, and you have the makings of a jolly farce.

Irma Vep has been done in the Bay Area before. Prior to its going under several years ago, the Eureka Theatre did *Irma* quite successfully. Though there are dozens of Ludlam plays available, this is one that keeps coming back, especially in the Bay Area. Tom Ross, managing director of Berkeley's Aurora Theatre Company, knew Ludlam in New York and has long been a fan of his work. In fact, while Ross was working at the Public Theater, he had convinced Joe Papp that Ludlam was the perfect choice to direct Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus* in Central Park. Alas, the production was unrealized. Ludlam was simply too sick to direct the show.

When Ross first thought of doing *Irma*, he had hoped Danny Scheie, whom Ross calls one of the "preeminent gay artists in town," would direct and take on the roles Ludlam himself originated. ("Danny's eyes remind me of Charles Ludlam's eyes," Ross says.) But the task of directing one's self in a space as tiny as the Aurora — 67 seats — was too much to ask, so Ross agreed to co-direct with Scheie and provide the necessary extra set of eyes the compact but blazingly fast production needs. Charles Shaw



Charles Shaw and Danny Scheie in Ludlam's *The Mystery of Irma Vep*.

Robinson plays the remaining roles, and with no little aplomb.

A move to a larger venue generally occurs when a show proves itself a hit, but the Magic's artistic director, Mame Hunt, invited this production of *Irma* to her theater before the rave reviews had even hit the streets. The change in venue means several things: nearly three times the number of seats, a larger backstage area (important for the three backstage costumers/prop people who are as crucial to this show as the actors), and more space to play out the work's broad physical comedy. Director Ross says the transition from the tiny Aurora to the more spacious Magic has been less demanding than he'd imagined, only requiring some new fight

choreography and familiarization with the new space.

Ross also says the entire company has been reveling in Ludlam's comic horror world, especially Scheie, who easily transports himself through the play's several roles: the innocent bride Lady Enid Hillcrest, the earthy Nicodemus, and the tormented Lord Edgar Hillcrest. The manic energy of the production is best summed up by Robinson: "This is the only play I've ever done where it's more relaxing to be on stage than off!" ▼

The Mystery of Irma Vep continues at the Magic Theatre through July 27. Call 441-8822 for information.

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MUSIC

'Riot Grrrl' goes bel canto

Berkeley Opera's 1997 season concludes with a world premiere of a new adaptation of Rossini's famous opera, *Italian Girl in Algiers*. In David Scott Marley's *The Riot Grrrl on Mars*, opening Saturday at the Julia Morgan Theatre, Rossini's zany story becomes a Generation X tour de force about a woman who flies to Mars in a homemade rocket to rescue a fellow band member who's been abducted by extraterrestrials.

The cast includes Julie Perani and Laura Desher alternating in the title role. Other cast members include Erina Newkirk, Erin Neff, Isabella Zagare, Richard Goodman, and others. Berkeley Opera Music Director Jonathan Khuner conducts. Performance dates are July 12, 18, 19, 23 and 26 (8 p.m.) at the Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Avenue in Berkeley. Tickets are \$15-26. Call (510) 798-1300. ▼



Love American style

Tony Vitale's 'Kiss Me, Guido' charms

by Mark J. Huisman

In Tony Vitale's *Kiss Me, Guido*, Frankie and Warren are struggling actors. But when Frankie (Nick Scotti), a straight Catholic boy from an Italian neighborhood in the Bronx, meets Warren (Anthony Barrile), a gay, cynical Manhattanite estranged from his lover, the similarities end. Misinterpreting a classified ad engineered by Warren's mischievous friend Terry (Craig Chester), Frankie is convinced he and Warren are the perfect roommates. Because Warren owes five months' rent, he cannot entirely ignore this "Guy With Money." To complicate matters, Warren's ex-lover Dakota shows up and Warren cannot resist the temptation to pass the hunky but unsuspecting Frankie off as his new lover. White lies abound. Con-

fusion ensues. Lifestyles collide.

The wonder of Vitale's debut film is its assortment of screwball characters, many of whom are immensely appealing comic creations, like Dakota's new boyfriend, a severely affected theater queen known only by a gesture in which the index finger and the middle finger on one hand are crossed with those on the other. (Let's call him "X" for short.) Pino (Anthony DeSando), Frankie's loud, brash brother, is a strutting seduction machine whose intra-family affair causes Frankie to flee the household. Then there's Warren's desperately single, pissed-off landlord Meryl (the dazzling Molly Price), who is first seen jogging madly down the street and worrying about water retention. Meryl may have a date that night, but the fact that she met this man in a co-dependent therapy group

does not bode well.

Some critics will undoubtedly bash *Kiss Me, Guido* as a tepid collection of stereotypes. But what the film really attempts is the clever juxtaposition of stereotypes. A prime example occurs in the film's opening sequence, in which Pino, after being disgusted by the sight of three gay men kissing, proceeds to smooch and hug his way through a group of old Italian men sitting on the side-

walk outside a nearby storefront. By examining the underlying mannerisms and rituals from which stereotypes themselves are constructed, Vitale's "stock" characters become caricatures, a refreshing way to explore opposite sides of social fences. There are uproarious scenes here: Frankie's family at their dinner table, Frankie's *Sound of Music*-tinged nightmare about life in Manhattan, and a sequence between Pino

and Meryl in which a ring is confused for a baby (don't ask).

Supporting characters sparkle

At its best, *Kiss Me, Guido* aspires to the comic tradition of great American films like those of Preston Sturges and Ernst Lubitsch. But like so many recent features — gay, straight, and in-between — Vitale's narrative fails

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INTERVIEW

Worlds collide

by David Lambie

New York-based Tony Vitale had a hard time selling the premise for his gay farce, *Kiss Me, Guido*. "Initially, when [telling the idea] to my friends they didn't believe that anyone could not know what 'GWM' stands for," Vitale says over lunch at a Nob Hill cafe. But then at a casting audition he met Domineck Lombardozi, a small-time actor who admitted he was unclear on the concept. Lombardozi thus won himself the role of Joey Chips, Frankie's sweetly innocent friend from the neighborhood. Choosing the role of Frankie, the gorgeous heartthrob at the center of this flick, drew on intuitive powers. "One day, Nick Scotti walked in," Vitale explains, "and suddenly everyone in the room — straight, gay, men, women — wanted to jump up and kiss him. And when he opened his mouth and spoke, we knew he was Guido."

Vitale says he deliberately created characters who mirrored each other's cultural backgrounds. "The two biggest stereotypical characters are Pino, this ultra-machismo Guido from the Bronx and Terry, this very wispy, effeminate fag from the Village. But they're both driven by their libidos and their solution to any problem is a sexual solution. Their advice to their friends Frankie and Warren is 'Go out and get laid and your problems will be solved.' Both are cut from the same mold, except that one likes women, the other men."

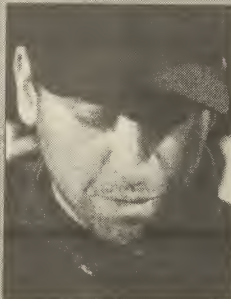
Vitale feels the whole idea of *Kiss Me, Guido* requires a certain degree of naiveté from the actors playing Frankie and Warren. "If the characters are to believably overcome their backgrounds and phobias — homophobia and heterophobia — and become friends then the audience must believe their early moments alone together."

In the film's pivotal scene, Warren is sprawled out on the sofa in a bathrobe completely oblivious to the physical charms of the straight hunk showering in his bathroom just a few feet away. Later, when Frankie conks out on the sofa, Warren, striking a motherly note, tucks him in before going out for a drink with his friends. "Right there," Vitale says, "you know Warren and Frankie will be a good odd couple. Their biggest dilemma will involve bringing their friends together, which is, after all, what *Kiss Me, Guido* is about."

"New York is such a mecca for gays and Italians," Vitale explains. "In the dance clubs, under one roof, you can find both communities dancing, playing, and sweating together, but what they weren't doing was talking to each other, and in a movie about homophobia and heterophobia that's what has to happen."

Getting *Kiss Me, Guido* to the screen was a long, hard taffy pull. Although studio execs loved Vitale's idea, they wanted a "name" director and a bankable cast. Vitale wanted to make his movie his way. Nine years later, the completed film debuted at Sundance. Though it screened too late for consideration from powerhouse distributors like Miramax, Fox Searchlight, and FineLine, John Ferraro of Paramount saw the film and liked it.

Vitale says working with Paramount was great. "They questioned the film's politics, worried about how it would be perceived by the community, worried about its political incorrectness, but as I told the executives, 'the reason I'm sitting here now is that you sat in a movie theatre for 90 minutes and laughed.' And hopefully, muses Vitale, 'audiences in America will do the same thing.' ▼



Director Tony Vitale



Small world: Domenico Lombardozi, Chris Lawford, Nick Scotti, Anthony Barrile, Craig Chester (go girl), and Dwight Ewell in Tony Vitale's *Kiss Me, Guido*.

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Crossing divides

Potent viewing in Jewish Film Fest

by Glen Helfand

Bill Clinton's dream of getting Americans into a dialogue about race is something neither Jews nor blacks need to be nudged about. *Blacks and Jews*, the long-anticipated documentary by Alan Snitow and Deborah Kaufman, provides visual examples of how the cultural relationship between these two minorities magnifies — and heats up — America's uncomfortable attitudes about race. *Blacks and Jews* plays in this year's Jewish Film Festival.

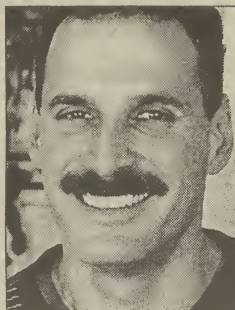
The 85-minute film looks at both sides of the coin by concentrating on headline-making events that have taken place over the last three decades: a late '60s incident in which shady real-estate dealings fragmented black and Jewish communities in Chicago; the Crown

Heights riots which began after a Hassidic Jew accidentally killed a black child; the Million Man March and the meaning of anti-Semitism in the Nation of Islam; and the media circus that resulted from the Oakland screening of *Schindler's List*, at which high school students laughed at the film. Interview subjects like Clayborne Carson, Michael Lerner, and Cornel West reveal the human dimensions of these events and lift the discussion beyond black and Jewish boundaries.

Heated theatrical arguments between a middle-aged black man and a gray-haired Jewess act as segues. Their discomfiting shtick brilliantly underscores the uneasy cultural stereotypes that result in cultural myopia. "When will you stop bringing up the Holocaust?" she asks the man. "When will you stop bringing up slavery?" coun-

ters the woman.

This sturdy but unflashy documentary has the feel of PBS fare. It's intended to generate discussion, and, fittingly, the Castro Theatre screening will be followed by a seminar moderated by Mayor Brown that will include activists and educators who take both sides of the issue. Dialogue is guaranteed.



Shimon Attie

Shimon Attie

San Francisco-based photographer Shimon Attie is concerned with creating an art of memory. Harold Woetzel's stylish documentary *The Art of Shimon Attie* shows how the artist literally su-

Journalist Peter Noel meets Isaac Bitton in *Blacks & Jews*.

perimposes photographs representative of important historical moments, in particular the Holocaust, onto contemporary urban landscapes in order to remind viewers of things that can and do continue to occur. This German-produced film looks at a variety of public projects that Attie has undertaken in various European cities. Attie's most recent piece takes sharp aim at the morally suspect "Making of *Schindler's List* Tours" in Poland, which focus on Spielberg film locations rather than the actual sites of barbarism. Attie commemorates the real people with a Hollywood Boulevard-style walk of fame installed on the cobblestone streets of Krakow.

Director Woetzel wisely concentrates as much on the histories that inspired the artist as on the work itself. In one section, the film

recounts (using archival footage) how residents of a Danish fishing town hid Jews on their fishing boats in order to save them from concentration camps. The historical anecdote served as Attie's inspiration for a hauntingly beautiful underwater installation in Copenhagen. The film captures the real-life connections that make Attie's work so bracingly alive. ▼

Blacks and Jews plays Sunday, July 20 (6 p.m.) at the Castro Theatre, and Sunday, July 27 (6:30 p.m.) at the UC Theatre in Berkeley. *The Art of Shimon Attie* plays the Castro Theatre Wednesday, July 23 (9:45 p.m.) and the UC Theatre on Monday, July 28 (9:45 p.m.). For information, call 621-0556, or (510) 548-0556.

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Curtain Up!

◀ page 32

That Song Before," a peppy tune made famous by **Helen Forrest** in 1955. **Mike Greensill**, Whitfield's husband/musical director/pianist/arranger, has worked his customary magic on the tune, slowing it down to a languorous ballad and letting Whitfield's lyric reading bring the song to new and vibrant life. Who knew this song was full of such wistful longing? When Whitfield and Greensill tackle a song — any song — chances are the listener will hear it with new ears, but in the case of "I've Heard That Song Before," these artists all but re-invent it.

Joining Whitfield and Greensill on the CD are consummate musicians **Noel Jewkes** on clarinet and sax, **Michael Moore** on bass, and **Joe LaBarbera** on drums. *Teach Me Tonight* may be Whitfield's jazziest album to date and also one of her best. As usual, the song selection is impeccable. **Lerner and Loewe's** "Almost Like Being In Love," from *Brigadoon*, gets shuffled around a little but comes out sounding better than ever. **Rodgers and Hart's** "I Wish I Were In Love Again" has never been funnier. Whitfield eschews aching ballads for a generally more upbeat collection that includes "It Ain't Necessarily So" from the **Gershwins'** *Porgy and Bess*, the jaunty "Pick Yourself Up," and a sexy "Teach Me Tonight." Only Whitfield could transform the Disney anthem "When You Wish Upon a Star" into a hopeful, heartfelt ballad, and her take on **Sammy Cahn** and **Jule Styne's** "I Fall In Love Too Easily" elevates the song to a poignant level of heartbreak. Weslia Whitfield's *Teach Me Tonight* is a lesson in American popular song at its most sublime. ▼

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Another time, another place

'Bay Area Now' at Center for the Arts

by Steven Jenkins

As exhibition titles go, *Bay Area Now* seems about as straightforward as possible, proclaiming with certainty that the contents therein represent a specific locale and time period. Why, then, did I keep asking myself *Where? When?* while wandering through this ambitious, frequently amusing, but ultimately frustrating survey of good, bad, and indifferent work by 37 local contemporary artists, on view at Center for the Arts? Exactly *whose* Bay Area is shaped and reflected in this odd assortment of mixed-media work? And does the preponderance of retro kitsch and blasé affectation on display really capture the here-and-now zeitgeist of our hotbed domicile?

I suppose these questions reveal that *Bay Area Now* is nothing if not provocative, loaded as it is with inherent contradictions and controversies. The answers might be found more easily in the exhibition's well-intentioned, if misguided, curatorial strategy, rather than in the cool, crass, bewildering art that climbs up the walls and spills out from the corners of the Center's cavernous galleries.

Bay Area Now is Center for the Arts' bold attempt to revive a once-annual local tradition, dormant since the mid-1970s, of exposing work by emerging regional artists in a celebratory survey. (The San Francisco Art Dealers Association has also made an effort in this direction with its sumtime "Introductions" shows.)



Exodus (Detail), 1997, by Ulrike Palmbach

cerned with political and identity issues, vital themes in contemporary Bay Area art that are conspicuously missing from this survey.

That said, I'm not really complaining about the lack of didactic finger-pointing or strident, me-myself-and-I posturing in *Bay*

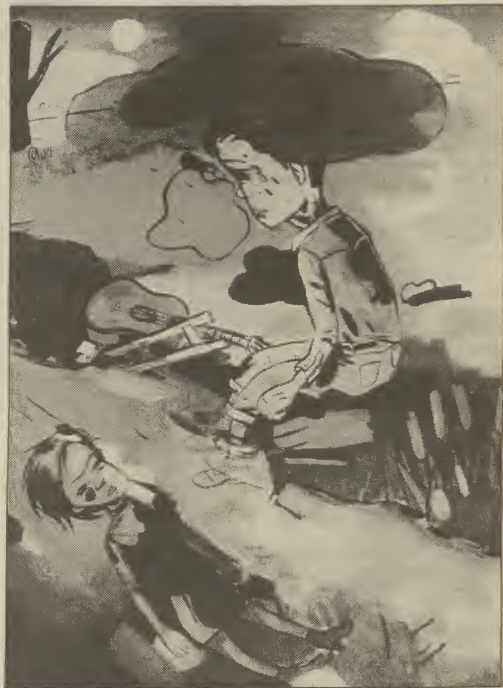
Several mystery objects on display are more intriguing. Kathryn Spence's lumpen mass of stuffed animals, furry bathrobes, and mud lays like a dead hippo in the middle of the main gallery, perhaps exhausted from having chased Spence's flock of pigeons,

Bay Area Now is nothing if not provocative, loaded as it is with inherent contradictions and controversies.

Area Now. In fact, the show is initially rather refreshing precisely because it favors quirky narratives and kitchen-sink stylistics over hard-hitting social commentary. To a large extent, the featured artists' perspectives appear to have been inspired by street energy, popular culture, and mass media,

made from garbage, wire, and rubber bands. These scavenged scavengers must be of the same species as Ulrike Palmbach's fabric-and-zipper birds, which perch on wires overhead. The collaborative duo Aziz + Cucher also have concocted strange, anthropomorphized hybrids in their computer fetish photographic series, *Plasmorphica*.

Chico MacMurtrie's *Telescop-*



Murder Ballad, 1997, by Jason Jagel.

ing *Totem Pole* is a gasping mechanical figure that looks horrifically elongated when fully erect and pathetically shrunken each time it collapses back to the gallery floor. Sandra Wong diminishes her charcoal-drawn loners and couples by surrounding them with acres of white space, while Rebeca Bollinger commodifies personal images by downloading photographic portraits from websites and imprinting them on

hundreds of cookies and graham crackers.

Several artists consider the pleasures and terrors of domestic comfort. Todd Hido's lonely photographs of urban houses give new meaning to the term "drive-by shooting." Stephanie Syjuco's turf-covered, tabletop mini-city is similarly vacant of residents (it looks like the setting for a Paul Auster novel). Gail Wight's video-

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Plasmorphica, 1996, by Aziz + Cucher.

A team of curators and advisors assigned themselves the tough task of visiting more than 100 studios and narrowing their choices to 37 participants, a motley crew of coy hipsters with a penchant for Day-Glo, fake fur, and schmutz.

In his introduction to the exhibition catalogue, Chief Curator Renny Pritikin admits that "In the final selections, some excellent artists who might have been included in a different sort of show had to be put aside for the sake of coherence." The problem here is that the exhibition doesn't feel particularly coherent, save for a surprising emphasis on work that is decidedly frivolous and non-confrontational. I can't help but wonder what the "different sort of show" that Pritikin hints at might have looked like. I expect it would contain work more overtly con-

not by political grandstanding. A quick glance at the show's bad boys and riot grrrls, psychedelic fairy tales, and kinky hummingbirds tells us that figuration, drawing, painting, and assemblage are in, while abstraction and conceptualism are out.

So who made the cut? Brett Reichman and Isis Rodriguez represent the icky-sticky '60s pastiche faction with their gaudy, rococo paintings of bad trips and bikinis, superheros and Saturn. Scott Hewicker's *Space is Rock and Drugs* consists of eyes and spirals drawn on the gallery wall in felt-tip pen. Terry Hoff also covers the walls with doodads and thingamajigs in her childhood nostalgia piece, *Cornered*, while Carolyn Castaño covers a floor-to-ceiling scroll with delicate drawings of magic mushrooms and butterflies in *I never loved you anyway*.

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of show business and the high cost of fame.

At the beginning of *Valley of the Dolls*, the film's heroine, sheltered New Englander Anne Welles (Barbara Parkins), isn't looking for show business fame so much as big-city adventure. Fresh out of Radcliffe, she arrives in Manhattan and immediately snags a job at an entertainment law firm, and a boyfriend, the firm's resident heartbreaker, Lyon Burke (the not-exactly-swoon-worthy Paul Burke). Fearing commitment, Lyon quickly flees New York and the marriage-minded Anne for London, where he becomes a best-selling author. Anne soon finds fame herself, parlaying her patrician beauty into an exclusive contract as the mod spokesmodel for Gillian Cosmetics.

Through Lyon, Anne becomes friends with up-and-coming starlets Neely O'Hara (Patty Duke) and Jennifer North (Sharon Tate). When we first meet Neely, she's being fired from her Broadway debut musical because the show's star, quintessential tough broad Helen Lawson (Susan Hayward), fears Neely will upstage her. This dismissal only motivates plucky little Neely to strive harder to



Barbara Parkins

make it as a performer, and before long, she's a huge recording, film, and Broadway star. (Her career climb is condensed in an ultra-kooky, freeze-frame and split-screen-filled montage sequence.) However, for Neely, the proverbial price of show biz fame is a failed marriage and addiction to booze and "dolls" (Susann's slang for amphetamines and barbiturates).

Unlike Anne and Neely, the minimally-talented, amply-endowed Jennifer never finds much show business success. She abandons her career soon after falling

for Dean Martin-ish crooner Tony Polar (Tony Scotti), who's riding high with his hit ballad, "Come Live With Me." All is bliss until soon after they marry, when Tony is struck with a rare debilitating disease, and Jennifer is forced to act in French "nudies" with titles like *The Flame of Montmartre* to pay for his stay in a sanitarium. It's there that a drying-out Neely is reunited with her friend Tony, who comes out of his vegetative state just long enough to join her in a teary duet of "Come Live With Me."

While Anne is the film's ostensible protagonist, *Valley of the Dolls* really belongs to Duke's Neely O'Hara. Neely, a role based on Judy Garland, endures more trauma per scene than any other character, and Duke, in a totally unrestrained performance, relishes every second of it. Although she has far less screen time than Duke, Hayward, in a role that was to have been played by Garland, is almost as memorable as egomaniacal stage diva Helen Lawson. (The only direction Robson seems to have given these two is "Louder! Bigger! More!") When Duke and Hayward come together toward the end of the film for a face-slapping, wig-pulling cat-fight, it's as if the scene were being played by a couple of seasoned drag queens.

Compared to Duke's and Hayward's overplaying, Parkins' and Tate's acting approach seem like the height of naturalism. Parkins, with her clipped diction and reserved manner, is convincingly glacial as Anne. The critical consensus on Tate's performance at the time of the film's release was that the beautiful but talentless actress was the perfect choice to play the beautiful but talentless Jennifer. But, in retrospect, Tate brings to her role an endearing shyness and sweetness, not to mention an uncanny ability to look great in purple hip-huggers and metallic mini-dresses.

The film's screenplay by Helen Deutsch and Dorothy Kingsley can't capture the hilarity of the book's omniscient narration. ("She knew the truth now. She was frigid," Susann writes early in the novel about Anne.) Still, Deutsch and Kingsley do a good job adapting Susann's catty repartee and acid-tongued invectives. Some of this nastiness is aimed at gays — "Only in Hollywood do women faint because some queer deigns to design their clothes" is just one choice example — but the lines are too laughable to be offensive.

In true camp, wrote Susan Sontag, "the essential element is seriousness, a seriousness that fails." By this criterion, *Valley of*



Patty Duke's Neely O'Hara endures more trauma per scene than any other character in the film.

the Dolls, a dead-serious melodrama that generates more laughs than most comedies, is indisputably a camp classic. ▼

Marc Huestis' *Valley of the Dolls* gala, featuring an in-

person tribute to Barbara Parkins, a "Miss Living Doll Contest," and a screening of the film, is sold out. Tickets are still available, however, for the 10:30 p.m. screening of the film. For ticket information, call 863-0611.

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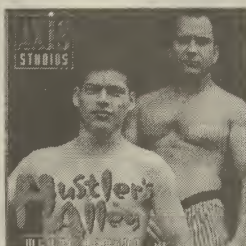
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Late Bloomers is a romantic comedy about Carly Lumpkin, a middle-aged school secretary, and Dinah Groshardt, a lonely geometry teacher who sidelines as a basketball coach. It's not love at first sight for Carly and Dinah. The story begins when Carly suspects Dinah of having an affair with her husband, Ron. Carly confronts Dinah, who quickly disabuses her of this notion. The two then become fast friends, and, one night after a basketball game, lovers. As their relationship unfolds, they encounter all the usual obstacles: heckling students, worried parents, a terrified PTA, and a husband and daughter who wonder just what mommy is up to. The supporting cast is marvelous, but the two leads, Dee Hennigan (Carly) and Connie Nelson (Dinah), will have you rooting for a sequel. *Late Bloomers* screened in this year's SF Lesbian and Gay Film Festival and at Sundance last year. It opens in commercial release Friday, July 18 at the Lumiere. ▼

—Pithy Galore

Wasn't she great?

'Valley of the Dolls' author Jacqueline Susann may have been the Queen of Schlock, but she laughed all the way to the bank

by Daniel Harris

During the 1960s, Jacqueline Susann crassly pandered to the dreams of every bedraggled housewife in beer-can curlers and support hose in America. She was the queen of escapist schlock, churning out three bestsellers about the rich and famous, a tragic tribe of pill-poppers always dodging the paparazzi, drowning their sorrows in drink and drugs, breakfasting on Dexedrine, and dining on Demerol. Susann's prose was a mass of clichés, of bad syntax and cheap sentiment, of lousy melodrama and torrid sex scenes, of whores and star-fuckers.

But if Susann was barely competent as an author, she was a genius as a publicist, a deranged book retailer who single-handedly revolutionized the pulp fiction industry by selling books in ways they'd never been sold before, not as marginal and somewhat sacrosanct commodities too dignified to fight it out on the open market but as "any new product... a new detergent," a brand name that must ruthlessly compete for "shelf presence" with other toothpastes, dandruff shampoos, and canned soups.

Susann's novels were frontal assaults on Walter Benjamin's concept of the artistic "aura," not one-of-a-kind objects that reflected the unique sensibility of a talented craftsman, but mass-produced merchandise as authorless as Warhol's silk-screened images, uncanny tributes to the power of marketing and the irrelevance of the actual product. In her fascinating biography *Lovely Me*, a book that cries out for full-scale

cinematic treatment, feminist author Barbara Seaman shows how Susann purchased her 45 minutes of fame the hard way, not by twiddling her thumbs and waiting for reviews to trickle in but by galloping through scores of radio and television interviews, weathering storms of insults, smear campaigns, and vicious pans, writing volumes of saccharine thank-you

a vested interest in purchasing the book a prime spot on *The New York Times* bestseller list, and it is rumored that its producers organized caravans of young kids who fanned out across the country buying up the stock, much as Scientologists are said to inflate the sales figures of Dianetics by sending out bands of neophytes called "raw meat" who scarf up their

If snotty reporters bent on advertising their literary savoir faire had the temerity to suggest Jackie was a far cry from Shakespeare or James Joyce, she shot back, "Why the hell not?" She was, after all, outselling them.

notes to every store clerk she met, and rising at ungodly hours of the morning to descend like a princess among lepers to bestow her benediction on the grizzled teamsters who shipped *Valley of the Dolls* to bookstores, plying them with Danishes and coffee like a kindly Jewish grandmother. If snotty reporters bent on advertising their literary savoir faire had the temerity to suggest that she was a far cry from Shakespeare or James Joyce, she shot back, "Why the hell not?" She was, after all, outselling them.

Of course, she got a little help from her friends. Like many movie studios in the 1960s and '70s, Twentieth Century-Fox was in the process of bidding on the rights to *Valley of the Dolls* in 1966 and had

messiah's voluminous drivetrain wherever they can find it.

By 1966, Susann's promotional efforts had paid off, and she was one of the most recognizable women in America, a somewhat macabre figure who resembled a feat of self-taxidermy, an aging showgirl with fluttering fake eyelashes as thick as mascara brushes, long painted talons, and jet-black,

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Photograph by Diane Arbus

Jackie with hubby Irving Mansfield in their Beverly Hills hotel room after she entered the Guinness Book of World Records for selling 6.8 million copies of *Valley of the Dolls* in the first six months after publication. Photograph by Diane Arbus from Diane Arbus Magazine Work.

Kiss Me, Guido

◀ page 35

to develop into anything more than an extended situation comedy. The device of a play-within-a-film has long been overdone and Vitale's attempt, marred by a reliance on scatological humor, well, stinks. It's not terribly interesting or funny, for example, to witness Warren and Frankie sincerely rehearsing lines from a play that requires anything but sincerity. Barille and Scotti might be cute, but there's zero sexual tension between them, and that's a big problem in a story that depends on dueling sexualities. Furthermore, all the wit in Guido's world can't overcome the fact that Vitale's story and its leads aren't remotely as interesting as his supporting characters, who steal the show with knock-out performances.

Most compelling are Price and DeSando, whose near-accidental relationship provides the film's funniest comment on urban romance. Price is especially fantastic as a bride-in-constant-waiting. "Men! You're all the fucking same!" Meryl shrieks in one hysterical scene. "You think with your dicks. Wham, bam, thank you, Sam. I could do that. But not I'm too special!" When he's not shouting at the top of his Roman Catholic lungs, DeSando's Pino snakes around the streets like no other creature you've ever seen. Unless, of course, you actually live in the Bronx.

And Craig Chester simply sparkles as Terry, the camp swish whose presence always foreshadows a kind of guttural repartee characterized by the retort he makes to "#": "You remind me of an infection I had once." Chester has been out on screen and street for years, placing an entirely unique stamp on queer cinema, from *Swoon* to *Grief* to this latest film. Someone should give this guy a medal.

Much has been made of Paramount's purchase of this film, independently produced by Ira Deutchman (founder of queer-friendly Fineline Features) and veteran Christine Vachon. But whether or not *Kiss Me, Guido* matches the success of another broadly drawn studio comedy, MGM's *The Birdcage*, depends on how forcibly Paramount deploys its PR guns. Whatever the result, Vitale is a director with a true feel for a difficult medium. After seeing this valiant first effort, you'll no doubt look forward, as this critic does, to the time when Vitale's comic talents truly come into their own. ▼

Kiss Me, Guido opens at the Embarcadero Cinemas Friday, July 18.

Mark J. Huisman is the associate producer of *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love* and is a frequent contributor to *The Village Voice* and other publications.

When he answered the ad for a roommate he thought that "GWM" meant...

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I confess

by Jim Nawrocki

The Celibate by Michael Arditti; Soho Press, \$24

The conflict between spiritual aspirations and secular temptations has long been fertile ground for writers. Those who have wrestled with the demands of the spiritual and the worldly have often taken comfort in documenting their struggles, and the high drama inherent in such stories seems to guarantee their appeal. This theme has received many memorable treatments. Saint Augustine's *Confessions* is perhaps the most famous example. The poetry of 17th-century clerics John Donne and George Herbert provides another. More modern examinations of the theme include Graham Greene's novel *The Power and the Glory*, which describes the thwarted mission of an alcoholic priest, and Thomas Merton's *The Seven Storey Mountain*, his soul-searching spiritual autobiography.

Directly and indirectly, these

eminent voices can be heard in Michael Arditti's novel *The Celibate*, which was published in England in 1993 and is now available to American readers from Soho Press. Arditti's novel is the story of a faith that wavers, strays, but ultimately finds its home; in this, it resembles Christ's parable of the prodigal son, but with some decidedly modern twists. Arditti's "prodigal son" is a young ordi-

Arditti's novel is the story of a faith that wavers, strays, but ultimately finds its way home.

nand whose nervous breakdown (he collapses on the altar during a mass) prompts his superiors to send him into therapy. His quest for psychological balance is also a quest to understand and rediscover his faith. The novel is structured as an extended monologue in which the young man, who never provides his name, tells all to his therapist-cum-professor.

quite another to be aware of that war. Arditti's narrator is clearly in the latter group. Well-read and well-versed in psychotherapy, he constantly attempts to one-up his therapist. As a result, his journey of self-discovery is all the more tortuous.

Initially, the narrator is a classic portrait of an individual in denial. When the subject of sexual-

ty first arises with his therapist, he extols the virtue of priestly celibacy and pointedly asserts that he is incapable of having even a subconscious sex drive. On the subject of masturbation, for example, he tells his therapist, "...no, I haven't; and no, I don't; and as I've told you before, I never dream, so thankfully I've been able to avoid any involuntary mishaps, such as sleep-walking or bed-wetting, or anything else."

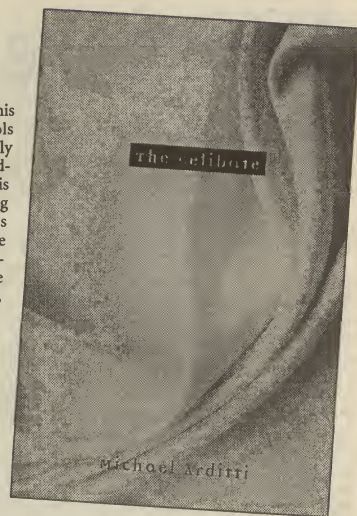
The narrator's initial psychological turmoil seems to be triggered by his estrangement from the full awareness of his personal history and sexuality. By his own admission, he begins his studies for the priesthood as a retreat from his family and the life he seems destined for with them. But family

demons and his own unacknowledged homosexuality eventually come knocking at his door. When they do, he not only recognizes them, but immerses himself in them.

Arditti has created a narrator who is steeped in history, both his own and that of the world around him. The first half of the novel includes the narrator's extended meditation on the life of London's infamous serial killer, Jack the Ripper, a connection brought about by the young man's part-time job leading tours of the killer's various crime scenes. Arditti's use of Jack the Ripper as a symbol of the narrator's inner turmoil is heavy-handed, to say the least. As the narrator revisits the Ripper's murderous stalking of London's 19th-century prostitutes, he also ministers to the rent boys who ply their trade in modern-day London. And as his connections to the boys grow more intimate, his feelings of disorientation and self-hatred intensify. Arditti employs similar symbolic parallels in the second half of the novel, drawing a connection between the Great Plague of the 1600s and AIDS. (Arditti distinguishes between the Great Plague of 1665-1666 and the Black Death, which occurred in 1346-1351.)

The "Gay Plague" casts a heavy shadow in *The Celibate*. At one point, soon after his first forays into the darker regions of gay sexuality, the narrator consciously pursues AIDS, believing the infection will bring him into a terrible but essential brotherhood with those who suffer from it. Once he observes the ravages that AIDS brings, however, he responds to its horrors by rejecting the God who allows them to happen. The crisis provoked by the narrator's encounters with AIDS sufferers is more than one of faith. It is also a crisis of identity. In the process of trying to examine and define his relationship to God, the narrator unearths a variety of unsettling discoveries about his family and heritage, realizations that force him to reevaluate who he is.

The scope of *The Celibate* is ambitious. As a kind of "tale told by a madman," it is necessarily discursive and laden with allusions. Perhaps this is fitting for a narrative of a psyche emerging from internal chaos, but Arditti often seems too intent on displaying his cleverness. What's more, the *deus ex machina* he employs at the end of the novel allows "our hero" to more or less ride happily into the sunset, complete with spiritual and worldly riches and the ability to rationalize his embrace of both. ▼



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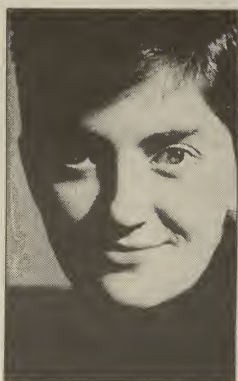
Fresh spin

by Deborah Peifer

Kissing the Witch: Old Tales in New Skins by Emma Donoghue; HarperCollins, \$14.95

Emma Donoghue is a writer of exceptional artistry. Her novel *Stir-Fry* is one of the best, and funniest, coming-out novels ever. *Hood*, an achingly painful tale of loss concerning the accidental death of a very closeted lesbian's lover, had me weeping for days when I wasn't thinking deep thoughts about the meaning of family and community. I was not thrilled to see that her latest is a reworking of fairy tales — surely that's been done to death. Given the extraordinary skill of her earlier efforts, however, I knew I had to check out *Kissing the Witch: Old Tales in New Skins*. Let me tell you — these new skins are astonishing. You will never think of "Cinderella" or "Sleeping Beauty," or "Snow White" the same way again.

Begin with the fact that the tales are so completely reworked that sometimes I didn't know which old tale was being retold until the very end. Add to that a narrative frame that connects a character in each story to the one that follows, and you've got not merely a novel, but a body of myths for our century and beyond. Donoghue is a feminist, and her politics inform these stories, but she doesn't merely change pronouns or make the women active. She rethinks the myths in ways that are breathtakingly fresh. Although some of the stories are "corrected" to reveal a lesbian love story, the emendations are neither automatic nor heavy-handed. Donoghue's sense of humor is winning and occasionally pointed, and she uses her wit to good effect.



Emma Donoghue

Many writers have rewritten fairy tales, but none that I can think of has taken such care with the writing. Donoghue uses language with such skill that it is possible to read these stories for the sheer pleasure of her art. In "The Tale of the Apple," the narrator describes her first night alone: "Wider than I ever imagined, the forest was home to creatures I couldn't put names to, things with silver eyes and audible teeth." In "The Tale of the Bird," a princess discovers the heavy price of romantic love: "Oh, my husband was no tyrant; he would never sell my jewels, or steal my children, or cut off my head. But now I knew that what I wanted was not the same as what he wanted for me. What this good man had sworn to protect me from was not the same as what I feared."

Kissing the Witch is for adults, of course, but my guess is that high school students will also find the stories compelling and marvelously entertaining. I know for certain that once upon a time will never be the same. ▼

Jackie Susann

◀ page 39

shoulder-length falls who once said, "I'm beginning to dread forty. Forty is Hiroshima," even though she'd already reached the ripe old age of 48.

After six months on *The New York Times* bestseller list, the dreaded moment came at last when Harold Robbins nudged *Valley of the Dolls* off its pedestal as number one, but only after a prolonged and rancorous battle of the books in which Susann pulled such stunts as rearranging the stock in bookstores, often burying her competitors' novels beneath teetering piles of her own. When Susann discovered that she and Robbins were staying in the same Beverly Hills hotel and that he spent most of his time dallying in the swimming pool, she rushed out and bought 40 copies of her book, which she distributed to all of the vacationing sunbathers, who then greeted Robbins by peering at him slyly over the edge of their open copies of *Valley of the Dolls*.

Over the last few months, I have invoked Susann's ghost in the selling of my own *Valley of the Dolls*, *The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture*. Since my book had no advertising budget whatsoever, and a glamorous book tour was not in the cards, I quickly realized that, given the relative indifference of my publisher to the success of my book, and the stiff competition I faced from three other dandruff shampoos on the market (Signorile, Rotello, and Sullivan), I would have to leave my cork-lined room and throw myself into the fray of that most distasteful of acts, self-



Horsely gal, that Jackie.

promotion. Short of stalking the subways in a sandwich board, I set out to do everything I could before I gracefully allowed the waters of oblivion to close over my head,

all the while knowing that Jackie was there spurring me on, crouching like a ghoulish gnome on my shoulder with her orange lips, \$69 Wig City special, and mod Pucci pantsuits that Rex Reed once called "her banana split nightmares." Susann's chutzpah inspired a bookish writer like myself to come down from my ivory tower and start hustling my butt like any importunate door-to-door Fuller Brush salesman. In the countless interviews she gave in the course of her brief career, she always managed to bring the conversation back to *Valley of the Dolls*, no matter what subject she was addressing, and it is in this spirit of unapologetic hucksterism that I pay homage to her incomparable skills as a pitch-woman and end this piece by bringing the conversation back to — what else? — *The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture*, the *Valley of the Dolls* of the late '90s. For credit card orders, please call (800) 759-0190. Operators are standing by. ▼

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Miscellany

by Deborah Peifer

In the dog days of July, inklings of wonders to come mean a lot to us persons of print, so let me whet your readerly appetite with the news that Michael Kearns' third book for Heinemann, *Getting Your Solo Act Together*, will be out this fall. For all of us who have suffered through some pretty wretched one-person shows, this is welcome news. Kearns' earlier books, *T-Cells & Sympathy* and *Acting=Life*, were gifts to actors and spectators alike. I suspect his third will be, too. Also on the near horizon, Katherine Forrest's latest Kate Delafield mystery, *Apparition Alley* (Berkley Prime Crime), promises to be another winner from this popular lesbian author.

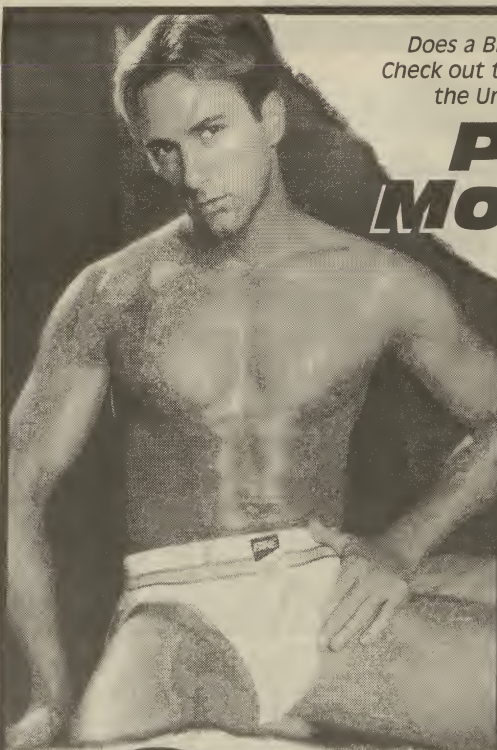
Somewhat further out on the horizon, Jean Taylor, she of the wonderful Maggie Garrett mysteries (*We Know Where You Live* and *The Last of Her Lies*), is working on a "thriller revenge-killing book based loosely on [her] nine years in a Marxist-Leninist party that was run as a cult."

Sarah Dreher (the Stoner McTavish mysteries, *Lesbian Stages*) is taking a break from Stoner to work on *Solitaire and Brahms*, a novel she's been writing since she was a graduate student in the '60s and was the only lesbian in the world. Dreher promises her sojourn away from Stoner is only temporary; she's already working on *Shaman's Moon*, which will be the seventh in the series.

Upcoming from Bluestocking Books (*Lesbians in Print*, *Blood-song*) is a novel by a new writer, Kelly Conway, tentatively titled *Spooky Soup*, and a feminist history by Irene Stuber. If you have some writing that the rest of us need to see, contact Bluestocking at (<http://home.earthlink.net/griffill/index.html>), fax (714) 835-5496, e-mail griffill@earthlink.net, or write to: Bluestocking Books, P.O. Box 50998, Irvine, CA 92619-0998. ▼



Michael Kearns



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The music man

by Bob Roehr

Virgil Thomson: Composer on the Aisle by Anthony Tommasini; Norton, \$30

Virgil Thomson's name may not be familiar to the average American, but his reputation as a composer and man of letters is getting a well-deserved boost these days with the publication of a new full-length biography, *Virgil Thomson: Composer on the Aisle*, by Anthony Tommasini. The book is a highly readable and important contribution to American musical scholarship.

Classical music is marginalized today, but it was once an important part of America's cultural life. During the '30s, '40s, and '50s, people listened to it on the radio, attended concerts, and even supported new works, especially those by American composers. The great networks even got in on the act by creating symphony orchestras as the crown jewels of

their weekly programming. It was a brief but glorious period for music in America, one that was eventually overwhelmed by the twin evils of television, which provided cheaper and more convenient forms of mass entertainment, and academe, which turned music-making into pedagogy, thus cutting it off from much-needed mainstream audiences.

Virgil Thomson (1896-1989) was a giant of this age, as a composer and later as music critic for the *New York Herald Tribune*. Thomson was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri, and escaped first to Harvard and then to Paris. He befriended the noted poet Gertrude Stein in the '20s, and in 1927 the two collaborated on the opera *Four Saints in Three Acts*. The work became the darling of the avant-garde when it was produced in 1934. It adapted elements from musical theater, Negro spirituals, and Dadaist performance. John Houseman directed an "all-Negro cast," Frederick Ashton provided choreogra-

phy. The result was delightful, a whimsical interplay of song, word, and vision that pleased the senses and tweaked the mind. It premiered in Hartford and later toured to New York and Chicago for an amazing 60 performances.

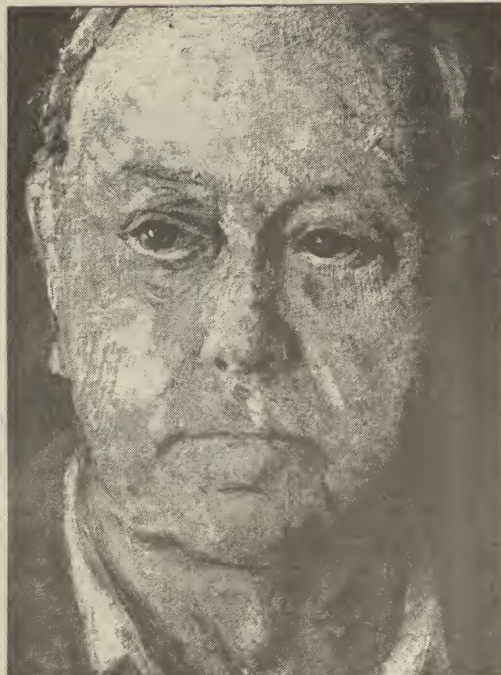
Thomson also won acclaim with scores for three documentary films, *The Plow That Broke the Plains*, *The River*, and *Louisiana Story*. The latter earned him a Pulitzer Prize in music. He mined traditional American folk tunes and extracted their clean, simple melodies for the core of this work. His example led Aaron Copland to create his most popular works, among them *Appalachian Spring*, *Billy the Kid*, and *Rodeo*.

Thomson had written about music from his college days, even before he formally began composing. But in 1940 it became a profession when he started penning reviews for the *Tribune*. He had a rare ability to describe musical experiences in the most homespun, non-technical way, one of his editors once commented. He soon became the most influential music critic in America. He quit the paper in 1954 and continued to write music and criticism (for other publications) until his death in 1989. The last decades of his life were a period of slow decline.

Tommasini is well-equipped to chronicle Thomson's life. He has academic credentials, is a music critic for *The New York Times*, worked as an assistant to Thomson, and had access to all of the composer's papers. His biography brilliantly lays out the dual roles Thomson played and the context of an era radically different from our own. In Thomson's heyday, there were but a few overlapping circles of acquaintances, and everyone passed through New York at one point or another. The music world today has no such geographical center.

Tommasini's treatment of Thomson's homosexuality is refreshing. The composer knew he was gay and was sexually active from his teens. But the social mores of the times dictated that he not acknowledge it if he hoped to have success. His paranoia was reinforced by an incident in 1940, when Thomson was arrested at a "gay bordello." Fortunately, he was not prosecuted.

Tommasini captures Thomson's ambivalence, the complicated duality of his public and private personas, his sense of propriety with ladies, and love of gossip



Composer and critic Virgil Thomson in a portrait by Maurice Grosser.

with boys. We learn of his frustrated yearnings and the long-term relationships he often would denigrate through public slights. Some would be quick to call it internalized homophobia, but Tommasini refrains from such armchair analysis. As the author makes clear, there are many reasons for the nasty streak that ran throughout most of Thomson's life and often informed his work.

We also learn of the "queer marriages" that so many gay men

of the avant-garde arranged with women as a means of social survival. It's a sober view of the life that many gay men felt compelled to live in pre-Stonewall America.

The text is peppered with many of Thomson's wonderfully bitchy exchanges with Stein as well as delicious excerpts from his characteristically insightful reviews. Hence readers gain a real sense of how Thomson became such a force in musical America. ▼



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THEATRE

Beach girl



Psycho Beach Party, Charles Busch's off-Broadway smash hit, has just opened in Theatre Rhino's Studio. *Psycho Beach Party* is a fun, campy, kitschy comedy based on those Sandra Dee *Gidget* flicks from the '60s. Throw in references to *Marnie*, *Spellbound*, *The Three Faces of Eve*, and *Mommie Dearest*, and you've got a Grand Guignol omelette on the beach. *Beach Party* is about a little girl named Chicklet who wants to learn how to surf, but none of the boys will teach her. To make matters worse, Chicklet has a mess of a mother whose abusive behavior has resulted in Chicklet developing a multiple personality disorder. *Hold your water, Gidget!*

The show is directed by Richard Ginsberg and features Jason Scott Buro as Chicklet; Kenn Sprekel as Star Cat; and the talented Flynn De Marco, recently seen in Rhino's productions of *The Big Drag* and Charles Ludlam's *Camille*, as well as *Jungle Red*, in which Flynn played the husband stealing Crystal Allen. *Psycho Beach Party* runs through August 16 in Rhino's Studio, 2926 16th St. Call 861-5079 for tickets and information. ▼

TRAVEL

Gay New York, in small bites

by Wayne Hoffman

It's the city that doesn't sleep. The cultural capital of the United States. Sodom on the Hudson. New York is all that and more.

While gay and lesbian visitors mostly come to do the same things as everyone else — see the Empire State Building, take in a show, eat a real bagel — New York has added significance for gay tourists. There's history, there's culture, there's a thriving scene that's simply on a scale unmatched elsewhere in the country. It's tempting to dive right in and try to do it all. With so much to see, however, it's better to treat New York like an overstuffed corned beef sandwich: take small bites.

There's plenty more to gay New York than Manhattan. Queens is home to a large Latino gay community in Jackson Heights. Brooklyn's Park Slope has possibly the most visible lesbian community in the city. There are even gay bars on Staten Island. But for most tourists, New York means Manhattan: skyscrapers, feisty cab drivers, and a dizzying pace. Manhattan is the biggest, the fastest, the loudest, and the tallest. It's also where the vast majority of gay establishments are located.

Even within Manhattan, there are certain areas of greater gay interest than others. While gay men and lesbians can be found in decent numbers across most of the city, there are three main gay neighborhoods to investigate, all within walking distance of each other. The West Village is what has historically been known as Greenwich Village: quaint winding streets, European-style cafes, and cozy brownstones abound. Its modified moniker is due to the rise of the East Village, a more alternative neighborhood with a cutting edge sensibility and grittier look; Broadway's hit *Rent* takes place in the East Village, and the junkie-squatters-fighting-gentrification plot seems perfect for its setting. To the north of the West Village is Chelsea, the newest and hottest gay scene, where buff boys parade their pumped pecs down Eighth Avenue, New York's gay boardwalk. These three areas have distinct and sometimes conflicting personalities.

The West Village is the most established, the granddad of the gay ghettos. It was here, in Sheridan Square, that the Stonewall riots sparked the modern gay movement in 1969. Christopher Street, running through the heart

of the West Village, is among the most infamous and most enduring gay strips anywhere. And while many factors have led to a less overwhelming gay presence — newer and trendier competition, the community's decimation from AIDS, increasing straight tourism — the West Village is still the best starting point for any gay visitor to New York City.

From the beginning of the street near Sixth Avenue, a stroll down Christopher Street is a walk through gay history. The Oscar Wilde Bookstore is the country's first gay/lesbian bookstore; while larger stores have supplanted it in recent years, it's still an institution in this part of town. The Stonewall Bar — although now a rather lifeless place — is another important stop; a statue in the park outside commemorates the riots and gay liberation. Several other legendary bars line the strip: the schizophrenic Monster (middle-aged show queens upstairs around the piano and teenaged banjee boys downstairs in the disco), and mainstays like Boots & Saddle and Ty's (fortysomething men in plaid shirts and moustaches). At the end of the street is the Christopher Street pier. Once a well-known cruising ground, the dilapidated structure is still popular for sunbathing on weekends, and it boasts a stunning view of the Statue of Liberty.

The West Village isn't what it used to be, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. The quietly picturesque and walkable neighborhood maintains a strong gay identity, but it doesn't have the competitive fabulousness of Chelsea. The atmosphere is more friendly and laid-back than it once was, and it's grown more diverse as well. Grove Street's piano bars draw many Broadway performers into the local mix. The Dugout anchors the bear scene on weekends, while the Lure (spoken of endlessly in Mr. Marcus' column) is the biggest and newest leather bar in town. The western end of Christopher Street increasingly draws younger gay men of color. Most of the lesbian bars in the city are found here. This is still the most all-encompassing place for gay and lesbian New Yorkers to socialize. It's no coincidence either that the Community Center is located here.

The East Village is less urbane and more urban. Nose-rings and tattoos are the norm here, where green-haired punks rub shoulders with drug-pushers on the sidewalks. Young and rough, this

neighborhood has supplanted the West Village as the cultural ground zero of New York. Its gay scene is more mixed in terms of race and gender, more stratified in terms of age (younger), and more "queer" in attitude. The most tourist-oriented street is St. Mark's Place, a great place to find used CDs, hash pipes, and cheap Shwarma. But the heart of the East Village is around Tompkins Square Park, birthplace of the annual dragfest Wigstock.

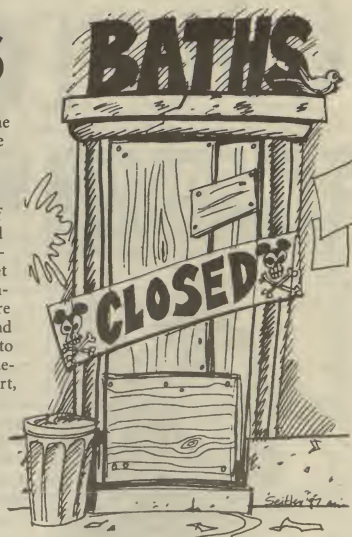
In recent years, Chelsea has become the city's new gay epicenter. The crowds are mostly young, male, white, and well-built. There are more bare (shaved) chests than shirts in summer, and more gyms than bars — and there are plenty of bars. But while reasons to hate Chelsea abound — intense attitude, body fascism, exclusionary bourgeois atmosphere — there's still a lot to like. The best gay restaurants are in Chelsea, and it's home to some of the city's best bars, including Splash, Champs, Rome, the Break, and King. A Different Light Bookstore is located here, as is much of New York's Levi/leather scene.

Of course, there's plenty more to gay Manhattan. The Upper East Side, famous for its museums, department stores, and blue-blood conservatism, has its own cluster of high-brow gay bars where the men wear suits and drink expensive scotch. Times Square and the surrounding Midtown area, famous for Broadway theaters, peep shows, and gender-bending prostitution, has its own seedy bars

and many of the biggest dance clubs. The family-oriented Upper West Side has a couple of cruise bars, and even the button-down Wall Street area has a bathhouse. There are gay restaurants and bars and shops to suit any fetish, demographic cohort, or class status scattered all over the city. The major gay neighborhoods are only a jumping-off point.

The best sources of information on the scene are the free bar rags *Homo Xtra* (HX), *Next*, and the new *HX for Her*, available in any gay store or bar; they've got terrific listings and nightly suggestions to keep visitors busy, and they always know which big club is in vogue. Betty and Pansy's *Severe Queer Review* (Cleis Press, \$10.95) is the most comprehensive, honest, and hysterically funny guide book available for homos traveling to New York.

One surprising thing to keep in mind: despite its reputation for debauchery, New York is in the midst of a crackdown on nightlife — especially gay nightlife. The



New York City Mayor Rudolph Guiliani is cracking down on bathhouses, bars, and clubs, but NY is still the city that doesn't sleep.

city is harassing and closing discos, bars, and sex clubs for petty violations. Dozens of gay establishments have been shuttered in the past two years as part of the mayor's war on pleasure, and other businesses are running scared.

Crackdowns aside, New York still has hundreds of gay establishments, decades of gay history, and tens of thousands of gay residents who love to show off their city. It's too much to ingest on a single vacation, but taking in New York one bite at a time, it doesn't seem quite so overwhelming after all. ▼

Bay Area Now

◀ page 37

tape *The Dreams of the Dust Mites* explores the domestic realm and subconscious state of those microscopic creatures who, we learn, harbor passions beyond our comprehension.

While much of the above work is just fine — additional bric-a-brac will have to go unmentioned for now, as will worthy entries by already established artists like J. John Priola — the relative strengths of most of the pieces are lost in the exhibition's sheer glut of stuff, not all of it well-displayed. Still, among the assembled works, I particularly liked Stephen Hendee's futuristic architectural installation *Cascade*, Chris Johanson's noir Trouble-town constructions, and Bruce

Cannon's time-keeping devices, which monitor the number of breaths the artist has taken and the number he has left based on insurance company projections. The real standouts are Michelle Rollman's finely detailed pencil drawings of oversexed foxes, weasels, and other furry friends doing unspeakably perverse things to each other, and Jason Jagel's haunting, multiperspective paintings of adolescent lust, murder, and pyromania. Their cheerfully deviant scenes are this scattershot survey's most subversive and exemplary representations of lowdown artmaking in the Bay Area now. ▼

Bay Area Now is on view through September 7 at Center for the Arts, 701 Mission Street.

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



Bay City roller.

Meals on wheels

Why is it that so many gay men objectify skateboarders and surfers-type guys? Well do we recall a prominent film world personage licking his chops as he described his boardriding boyfriend: "He shows up at my house all hot and sweaty on his skateboard..." and we'll spare you the resulting activities. All we can guess is that there must be some kind of perspiration chic involved.

The opening of a new show at San Francisco Art Commission Gallery, *SwitchStance*, has our salivary glands triggered. Described by gallery director Rupert Jenkins as a "sensory-swirling, mind-expanding, multimedia celebration of San Francisco surfing and skateboarding," the exhibition will showcase historical surf and skateboards, archival film, and a series of site-specific installations, photographs, paintings, and sculpture by Bay Area artists.

The reception Friday night, 6-10 p.m., at SFAC Gallery, 401 Van Ness, promises to be a skatin', surfers' cool-ass scene. Live music by the Aqua Velvets and Planet Seven, and others TBA, begins at 7:15 p.m. Super 8 footage by Bernardo de la Rionda will screen. The show, curated by Bob Carrillo, includes a sound design by Kadet Kuhne and Elise Baldwin that will "put you at the heart of the wave or the slap of the concrete" without any possibility of your posterior ever coming down hard on said concrete.

Considering the cement expanse fronting the execrably named War Memorial Building, we expect there to be all sorts of rollin' goin' on. Plus slide shows and movies made by boardridin' artists. Sounds like no ordinary art opening.

[Gone fishin'—back in 2 weeks.] ▼

SwitchStance remains at the San Francisco Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness Ave., through August 30. Call 554-6080 for further information.

Fr

Babae: Woman

The collapsed history of the Pilipina, written and performed by Lorna Aquino Chui. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/19. \$10. Bindlestiff Studio, 185 6th St. 974-1167.

Cabaret Castro

Alison Wright and Tommi Mecca do excerpts from solo performances. \$5-10. 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 552-6031.

Co-ed Prison Sluts

Pipedream Productions' musical comedy returns. Fri. & Sat. at 11pm thru summer. \$15. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Dear Diva

Gay advice columnist performs. Fri. thru 8/29. \$5. 8pm. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

En Drag

Female impersonators revue, hosted by Chablis and Harlow. 9,10,11:30pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

The Joy of Going

Somewhere Definite, Quincy Long's play with Nick Scoggin, Sean San José Blackman, more. Wed.-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 2 or 7:30pm thru 7/20. \$17-21. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Laughing Wild

The Sea Theatre presents Christopher Durang's comedy. Fri. & Sat. at 10pm, Sun. at 9pm thru 8/17. \$12. Shelton Theatre, 533 Sutter. 433-7875.

Luna Sea Marathon

Performance marathon celebrating 3 yr. anniversary of women's perf. space. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 7/26. \$8-12. 2940 16th St., #216C. 863-2989.

MACT Video Night

Men of All Colors Together screen "A Class Divided." \$2. 7pm. 95 Duboce. 675-0201.

Midsummer Mozart

Maestro George Cleve and Orchestra, Sarah Beth Briggs perform Piano Concerto No. 16. \$30. 8pm. Palace of the Legion of Honor. 392-4400.

Moliere 97

Two one-acts: "The Flying Doctor" and "Two Precious Maidens Ridiculed." Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 8/2. \$12-15. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. 646-0488.

Musty Chiffon

Singer/songwriter, psychedelic cabaret star in revue. Weds.-Sun. at 8pm extended thru July. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Quidam

Cirque de Soleil, French-Canadian circus. Tues.-Sun. thru 7/20, call for times. \$16.50-45.50. Tonight at 8pm. Jack London Square, Alice at Embarcadero, Oakland. (800) 678-5440.

Signifying Nothing

Paintings and sculpture by Christopher Geron, reception



Varla Jean Merman, the illegitimate daughter of Ethel Merman and Ernest Borgnine, belts them out at Josie's Cabaret. See Wednesday.

tonight, 6pm. Thru 8/22. Space 743, 743 Harrison. 777-8242.

Soccer Team

LBTQ women under 24 for LYRIC's soccer team: deadline to sign up. Call Rebecca: 703-6150.

SwitchStance

Multimedia celebration of SF surfing & skateboarding, reception tonight, 6pm. Thru 8/30. SF Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness. 554-6080.

Trouble in Tahiti

City Summer Opera presents Leonard Bernstein's one-act opera, with his Songfest. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 7/27. \$15. Diego Rivera Theatre, CCSF, Phelan & Judson. 239-3100.

Valley of the Dolls

30th anniversary screening of 1967 cinematic sizzler, live appearance by Barbara Parkins. \$15. 7pm. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro. 863-0611.

Verbatim

Grindstone Theatre Co. presents premiere of Terri Kasch's drama. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 8/2. Call for ticket price. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy. 474-5865.

Sat

Birthday Party

For Rita Rockett & Mark Abramson, featuring Gail Wilson & the Fabulous Velcros, benefits Rita's Brunch Fund at SFGH Ward 5A. 8pm. Pilsner Inn, 225

7pm thru 7/27. \$15-20. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Elana Dykewomon

Reads from *Beyond the Pale*, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

End of the World Party

Play about six gay friends sharing a summer house on Fire Island. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/19. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Five Easy Pieces

Performances by 5 women poets, incl. Mary Burger, Pamela Lu. \$7. 8pm. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folson. 626-5416.

Hollywood Cabaret

Cabaret, female impersonators hosted by Miss Bette Davis. \$5. Doors 9pm, show 10pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

India:

"A Celebration!" 5 exhibitions in honor of 50th yr. of Indian independence. Thru 9/28. \$7. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Isis Rodriguez

"My Life as a Comic Stripper," one-person exhibition, thru 8/9. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Kielbasa, Queen of Poland 2

Matthew Worszlo performs musical sequel: QoP on the road. Saturdays thru July at 8:30pm. \$5-7. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-1441.

Ralph Nader Is Missing!

Charlie Varon's new comedy for four actors. Wed.-Sun. extended thru 8/10. Call for times, prices. Tonight at 8:30pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

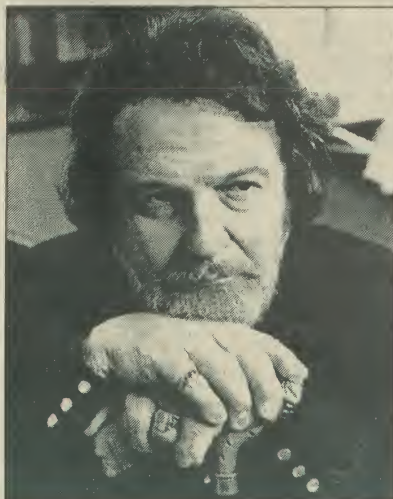
Sun

Doug Stevens and the Outband

Gay country/western band mixes two-step, swing, gospel, blues. Sun. thru July. \$7. 4pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Ferron

Singer-songwriter in concert. Sun.-Tues. at 8pm. \$14.50-15.50. Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison, Berkeley.



George Cleve, Founder and Music Director of the Midsummer Mozart Festival, Friday night at the Palace of the Legion of Honor. See listing.

(510) 548-1761.

Girls Night Out

Twilight cabaret, Shanna Carlson & John Wittala, lyrics of Carmen McRae, Billie Holiday, more. \$10. 5pm. Star Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

Joyful Voices

A cappella concert features Chanticleer, SoVoSo, and M-pact! Free. 2pm. Stern Grove, 19th Ave. at Sloat. 252-6252.

Marshall Loeb

Shares memorable movie moments with the G40+ Club, free. 2pm. First Unitarian, 1187 Franklin. 552-1997.

Scooter Thomas

Makes it to the Top of the World and two more one-acts. Sun. & Mon. at 8pm thru 7/28. \$15. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. 673-1172.

Mon

Betsey Kawamura

Woven photography, thru July. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring funny performers sign up by phone, MC Dan Rothenberg. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Michael Klein

Reads from *Track Conditions: A Memoir*, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

On the Rim

Artists combining Eastern & Western traditions, incl. Bruce Connor, Squeak Carnwath, Raymond Saunders. Mon.-Fri. thru 8/15. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery.

Prep

Arturo Herrera, Jennifer Novack, Car, and three more artists. Thru 7/26. Gallery 16, 1616 16th St. 626-7495.

Weed

Doug Wolens' film of 8th Annual Cannabis Cup & Hemp Expo. \$6. 7:15&9:15pm. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

Tues

Bay Area Now

Summer multidisciplinary arts fest & exhibition, 37 local artists. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Foggy City Dancers

Gay & lesbian square dancing, free introductory classes, Tues. at 7:30pm thru 8/5. Live Oak School, 117 Diamond. 905-4546.

Jallen Rix

Premiere of 2nd music video, "Down at Stonewall." 8-10pm. Midnight Sun, 4076 18th St.

The Mystery of Irma Vep

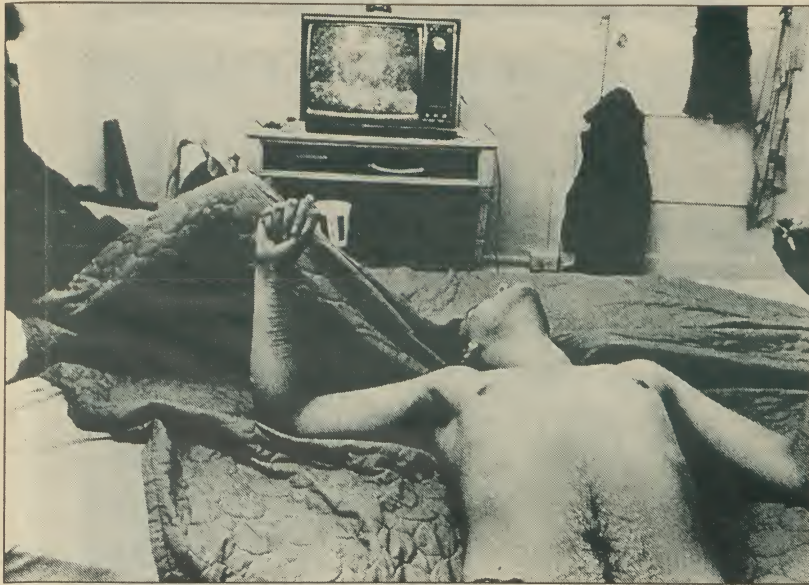
Aurora Theatre Co. & Magic Theatre Co. present Charles Shaw Robinson and Danny Scheie in Charles Ludlam's spoof of gothic horror. Wed.-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 7/27. \$20-22. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

QTV

Highlights of the 97 LGBT Pride Parade. 7pm. Cable Channel 47.

Raised by Wolves:

"Photographs and Documents of Runaways by Jim Goldberg" exhibit, thru 9/21. SF-



Jim Goldberg's *Pinkey and Tabitha*, Room 28, Hotel St. Paul #1, part of *Raised by Wolves* at SFMOMA. See Tuesday.

MOMA, 151 3rd St.
357-4000.

Rome: Open City

Roberto Rossellini's 1945 film on the Roman resistance, free. 6pm. Istituto Italiano di Cultura, 425 Bush. 788-7142.

Sylvia

A canine comedy by A.R. Gurney. Tues.-Sun. thru 7/27, call for times. \$25-37. Tonight at 8pm. Marines Mem'l Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.

Visual Aid's 4th Annual

Exhibition by 32 artists, incl. Michael Johnstone, Marcos Reyes, Barbara Cooper, thru 8/9. The Lab, 2948 16th St. 777-8242.

Wed 23

Fantastic Creatures:

"Demons, Dragons, Mer-

maids, and Monsters from the Permanent Collection," thru 3/29/98. \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0404.

Head Harnesses

"And Sensory Deprivation: Intermediate Bondage" class. \$25. 6:30pm. Castlebar. Call for reservations. 550-0122.

A Musical Conversation

Vocal ensemble Chanticleer in free concert. 5:30pm. Community Music Ctr., 544 Capp. 647-6015.

SF Games

Weekly board and card game group, free. 7:30pm. Muddy's Coffeehouse, 1304 Valencia. 679-3680.

Spirit of Ancient Peru

"Treasures from the Museo Arqueológico Rafael Larco Herrera," Peruvian art exhibition. Wed.-Sun. thru 8/31. \$9.50. de Young Mem'l Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Susie Bright

Reads from *Sexual State of the Union*, free. 7pm. Sister-spirit Bookstore, 175 Stockton, San Jose. (408) 293-9372.

Varla Jean Merman

"Illegitimate daughter of Ethel Merman & Ernest Borgnine" belts out tunes. Wed.-Sat. at 10pm thru 8/2. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Visions of Modernity:

"Photographs from the Peruvian Andes 1900-1930" exhibition. Thru 8/24. \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0404.

Thur 24

Billy Budd

Venture Theatre presents adaptation of Melville's classic nautical tale, aboard C.A. Thayer. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 8/31. \$25.

SF Maritime Nat'l Hist. Park, Hyde St. Pier. 929-0202 x58.

Direct From Nature:

"The Oil Paintings of Thomas Hill," 19th-century landscape artist. Tues.-Sat. thru 8/16. \$3. California Historical Society, 678 Mission. 357-1848.

Eisenhower Hour

New comedy by Rich Baker. Thurs.-Sun. thru 8/3, call for times. \$20-22.50. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

El Arte del Cine Mexicano

Original movie posters of the golden age of Mexican cinema, thru 7/30. Polanco Gallery, 292 Hayes. 252-5753.

It's Raining (Wo)men:

"In relation to lesbian and gay culture, summer '97" art exhibit, thru 8/16. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

Jane Loves Dick

New musical comedy: can a girl with a 40" chest find true love? Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2&7:30pm. \$15. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. 575-0243.

Lucy Bledsoe

Reads from *Working Parts*, free. 7:30pm. Modern Times, 888 Valencia. 282-9246.

Shear Madness

Whodunit set in unisex hair-styling salon. Tues.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$28-32. Mason Street Theatre, 430 Mason. 982-5463.

Sundown on the Millennium

Spoken word with Beth Lisick, Exene Cervenka and Don Bajema. \$5. 8pm. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market. 861-5016.

WANNA SUBMIT?

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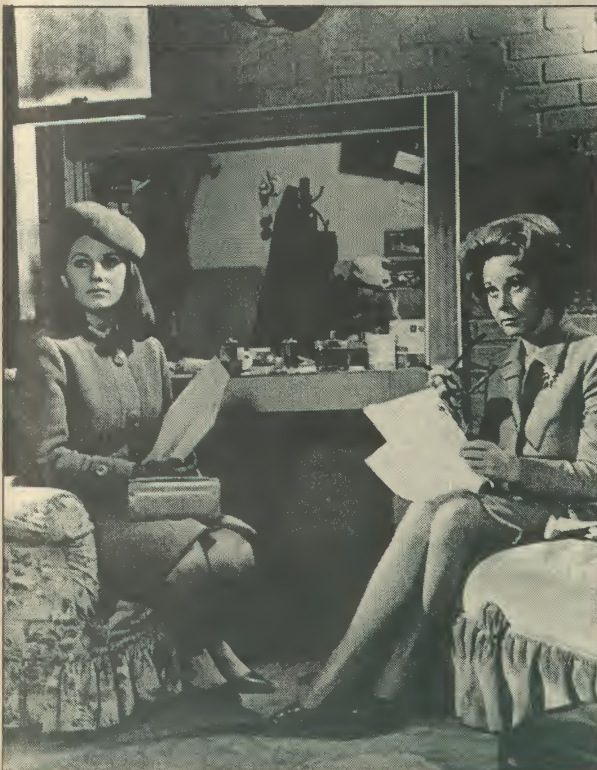
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"I need a doll!" Barbara Parkins and Susan Hayward in Jacqueline Susann's sizzler *Valley of the Dolls*, Friday night at the Castro. See listing.

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LEATHER SCENE



The cast of the Gathering of Eagles "fashion show" in Berwyn, Pennsylvania, on the 4th of July weekend.

Jill Carter passes the sash

by Mister Marcus

The attention of leather men and women alike will be focused on San Diego this weekend, July 17-20, when the 10th Annual International Ms. Leather contest takes place. The IMs.L organization, let it be said, has enjoyed a great year with the current title holder, Jill Carter of Willow Grove, Penn.

The past 12 months with Jill Carter, an icon for leather women around the world, has been nothing short of delightful. The fact that she and her other half, Viola Johnson, are taking my daughter, Queen Cougar, to live with them in Pennsylvania is a situation we all must deal with. However, all of us want our cherished friends to be happy, so the stamp of approval has been placed on this union by everyone concerned!

Hundreds of leather people are already at the Hanalei Hotel in San Diego for Jill's stepping aside and to meet IMs.L '97. The entire weekend package is only \$65 or \$80 with the Sunday victory brunch, and includes a lot of activities.

Tonight (Thursday, July 17) features a "meet the contestants" party and visits to Hurricane's and Club Bombay. On Friday, the vendor fair opens at noon, and the contestants' basket auction starts at 2000. On Saturday, among the highlights are workshops, a vendor fair and a roasting of Jill. At 1930, the doors open at the Spreckles Theatre, and the competition begins at 2000. The victory party will take place at the San Diego Eagle immediately following the contest and show. On Sunday, the victory brunch is at 1100, followed by a press conference at 1300. You can register at the hotel for the weekend package or for the contest only; it's \$30 at the door.

Jill Carter has been an outstanding representative for us all. The grueling schedule she maintained took her coast to coast. She is responsible for raising thousands of dollars for the Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago, as well as other causes espoused by various groups/cities.



IMs.L Jill Carter (center) will relax with Viola Johnson (l) and Queen Cougar (r) after sashing her successor July 19 in San Diego.

go, as well as other causes espoused by various groups/cities.

Always true to her goals, Jill recently told me, "We must gather the history now so that future generations will be able to stand tall, know where they came from, and walk proud in our heritage."

The job of educating the general population will never be complete, but Jill Carter is viewed as a pioneer in that field. She has certainly achieved her main goal: raising awareness of the need to preserve our tribe's history.

At my deadline, I was unable to find out how many contestants are competing at IMs.L this year. The

SF Bay Area will be well-represented, however, with Ms. Golden Gate Leather Beth Downey, Ms. Santa Clara County Leather Sharon Kleinman and Ms. Alameda County Leather Victoria mixing it up with the other contestants. Our own Gayle Rubin will be the head judge this year.

The show will be emceed by former International Mr. Drummer Brian Dawson and former Ms. Southbay Leather Miranda von Stockhausen. Great choices! I'll be there to bring you the re-

sults next week - with photos, of course!

Here on ye olde campus, it was nostalgia weekend, beginning with a beer bust/roast of Leather Daddy Loren Berthelson at the Eagle last Friday by Daddy's Boy Joey Faria. Most of the "dish" came from Loren himself! Loren passes the sash to a new Leather Daddy on Friday, July 25, at the Eagle. My spies say Patrick Batt, Tony D'Amato and Kelly Ellis are in the running. If you're daddy material, applications are available at the SF-Eagle and at Daddy's.

On Saturday, July 12, farewell parties were held at the Eagle for Joseph Bean in the afternoon and Queen Cougar that evening. These two popular figures drew massive crowds. Da Mayor even declared it Joseph Bean Day in San Francisco via a proclamation!

Movers and shakers of the leather/SM community were there for both sessions. Joe's and Cougar's admirers lined up to expound on the outstanding records of the two in this community - and to wish them well in their new endeavors. We will miss them!

On Sunday afternoon, July 13, there was another tremendous crowd at the Eagle for the Castro

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, July 17

Constantines MC's beer bust at Daddy's, 2000-2300, \$7, with a 50/50 raffle.

Weekend, July 18-20

The 10th annual International Ms. Leather contest all weekend in San Diego. See text above.

Water Boys' big Wet 'n' Hot '97 weekend at Cathedral City Boys Club in the Palm Springs area for \$120, which includes all sorts of aquatic events. Call 800/449-2479.

Harry Litt's Lazy Bear Weekend at the RushRiv is mostly at Fife's through July 21, plus events at RRR & Rainbow Cattle Co. It's free! Just find a place to camp out. Contact Castrobear at 621-3877 or call Fife's at 707/869-0656. Pool parties, beer busts, bear fun.

Friday, July 18

Exiles MC meets tonight. Call 487-5170. Free HIV testing at 933 Harrison, upstairs, courtesy of Blow Buddies and Stop AIDS Project.

SF Rubber Corps leather and rubber party, 2100-0200, with a \$5 donation at door. E-mail: RubbrCorps@aol.com.

Saturday, July 19

"First Ladies" of each bike club beer bust at the Eagle, 2000-2300, with a \$6 fee and spaghetti by Andy Rose. Hosted by club presidents and first ladies.

Bears of SF (BOSF) beer bust, 1500-1900 for \$6 at the Lone Star Saloon. Benefits Face to Face/Sonoma County.

Sunday, July 20

Shanti Project beer bust at the SF-Eagle, 1500-1800, beer, food, \$8. This event kicks off the Ride for Life bike run to LA.

Wednesday, July 23

Mr. SF Drummer and Drummer Boy contests at Daddy's. Applications available at Daddy's. Contest at 2000 with Linda Imperial warbling. Are you man enough to win? Winner competes for Mr. Northern California Drummer title on August 16.

Leather Buddies monthly party at 933 Harrison. Dress code and fragrance ban enforced; you will be sniffed! Call 979-0242 for info.

Lou Duff's "Head Harnesses and Sensory Deprivation" rope class, 1830-2200. Call 550-0122 for cost and location.

Thursday, July 24

Wet Buns Contest/beer bust at Daddy's by the Stop AIDS Project, 2000-2300, \$7, raffles and Donna Sachet. Win a Talk-n-Sex T-shirt. Get there early!

Friday, July 25

The 15th Annual Leather Daddy Contest at the SF-Eagle, with a \$7 beer bust. Who will succeed Loren Berthelson?

Saturday, July 26

Mr. Southern California Drummer contest at the Faultline in LA. Kyle Brandon passes the sash.

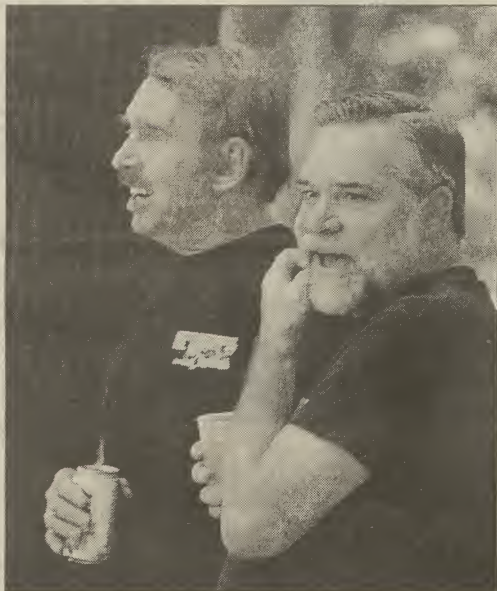
Sunday, July 27

Dore Alley Street Fair. More details on this one next week!

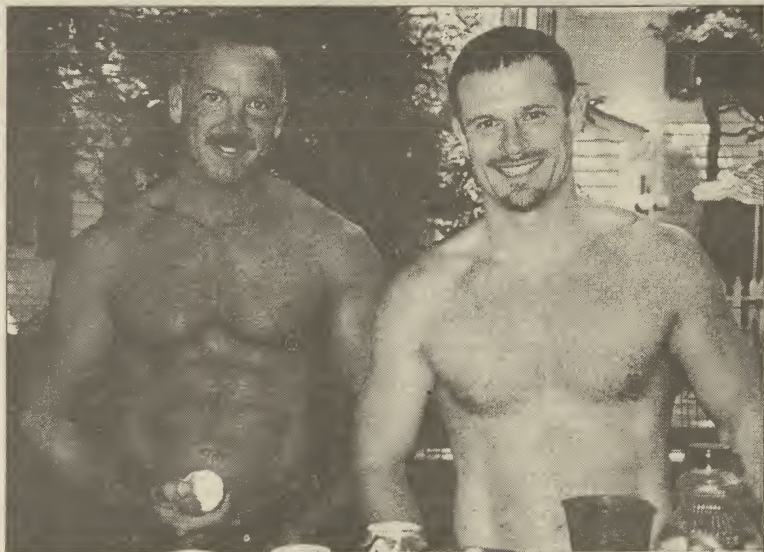
Lions' annual Leather Auction. Thom Rodgers wasted no time getting items into the hands of lucky bidders to the tune of over \$8,000! Ed "The Kid" Emond was the wardrobe master, and the food was definitely not microwavable Costco!

On Saturday night, Allen Grim's final production of the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer contest took place at the Baltimore Eagle with only two contestants: Mr. DC Drummer Troy Taylor and Centaur MC member Kevin Smith. In spite of the sweltering heat, there was a good turn out as Kyeth Fitzpatrick, last year's winner, passed the sash to his successor, Troy Taylor, the new Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer 1997. As for the Mid-Atlantic Drummer sponsor for next year, chances are it will remain in Baltimore, but the Potomac MC is bidding to stage it in D.C. Time will tell.

The other question on everyone's mind: Why did Joe Ricci leave the Baltimore Eagle after the contest in such a snit? With his impending wedding at Darryl Flick's mansion in Richmond, Va., shouldn't he be the most happy fella on the East Coast? ▼



"Legends" IML founder Chuck Renslow (l) and author Joseph Bean, new executive director of the Leather Archives and Museum.



Former LA Faultline Bar manager Ken Heuer (l) moved to Philadelphia to be with his Philly filly Thom (r).

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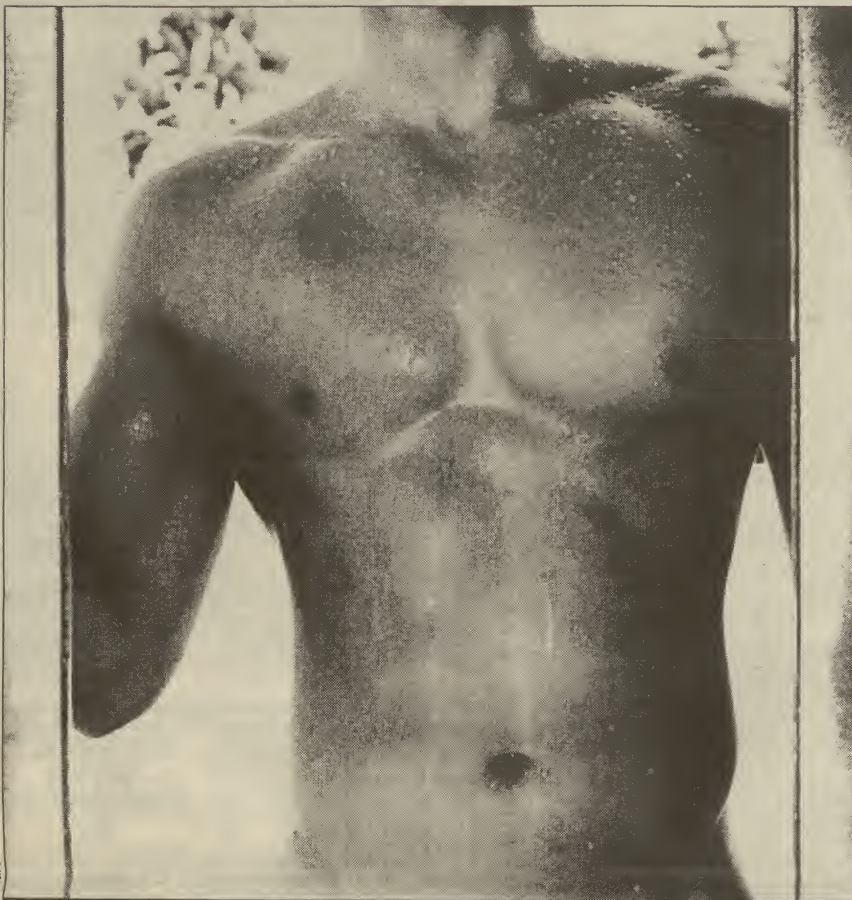
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PARTING GLANCES

From The Hamptons?
Sat 6/14, 1 PM, 18th/Castro. You: BM, Old Navy T-shirt. Me: WM in car. We said hello, would like to say hello again. ☎ 6901.

Mark @ Nob Hill Cinema 6/15
I still think of your sweet kisses and gentle touch. You had to meet friend. I gave you my card. Can we meet again? Please call, Richard. ☎ 6902.

Filipino Music Concert
Saturday, 6/7 (Oakland): I sat at table to your left. You suggested I buy a CD, and I asked why there wasn't any kudyapi. Want to discuss over dessert? ☎ 6903.

Cute Bay Bridge Toll Worker
Mon, 6/9, 7:30pm. Me: beard, glasses, blue car. You: last booth w/beard. Gave thumbs up when you saw my rainbow bumper sticker. Call and say hello. had to get somewhere but I wish I could of gotten somewhere with you! ☎ 6904.

Mill Valley Arco Station 6/16
6:15 PM. You: in a white Lexus. me: in a red Nissan. We smiled at each other before you left. let's meet. I look forward to talking with you. ☎ 6905.

Eagle Beer Bash—Sundays
You: graying beard, hiding in corners. I told you I thought you are shy, not grumpy. Let's go ride a cable car together. ☎ 6906.

Crossing At Castro & Mkt.
You: white T-shirt, dark hair, particularly attractive. Me: gray pin stripe and shaved head. We both stared, where did you go? ☎ 6907.

You Wanted Your First Spanking
And my phone messed up. You bussed to Mel's. Sorry I missed you. Please call again. You still deserve it. Daddy Howard. ☎ 6908.

Jonathan's Dad?
Monday June 23rd, about 1:00 @ Rendez-vous Cafe on Polk. I was seated w/friend outside. You were standing by door, then joined family. Interested? ☎ 6909.

Upper Market, 6/26
You were walking up 17th. I was in purple shorts, ready for a run. We both turned and looked, but did not stop. I'd love to meet. Call me. ☎ 7001.

Gray Van Delivery Man
Corner grocery. Scott and Sacramento. Tall, cropped hair, goatee. We cruised each other but you were gone when I got to the store. you looked like you could really deliver. ☎ 7002.

SFO Emp Cafeteria North 6/24/97
You: United emp, non-rev black short sleeve shirt, musc, hot. Sat with friend/ramp. Me: F/A in uniform, short sleeves, tanned, musc. military flattop would like 1 on 1. ☎ 7003.

Lucky T-Shirt At Gay Pride
You: blond, beautiful smile, tattoos on both wrists, wearing green corduroy pants. Me: black guy in overalls. Let me show you a good time. Your boyfriend don't need to know. ☎ 7004.

Sun 6/22 Alamo Square At Scott
You: WM on bike. Me: AM, passenger in white car. At 4:30 AM we looked and smiled twice. Want to join a bike trip. Let's meet. ☎ 7005.

Timothy C. Please Call
Recognized you in a crowd, then you disappeared. Long time since you roller skated on Castro and lived on Pacific. Me on Roosevelt way. You cooked for me. Curious! Dale. ☎ 7006.

One Need 2 Another; Pink Party
Kissed you hard on the lips, we went to Harvey's. You just moved that way. Would like to do dinner. John. ☎ 7047.

Pride Sun 3 PM Embarcadero Ctr
You: muscular, dark hair, shorts, white tank, 2 friends. Me: muscular, dark hair, jeans, black tank, water bottle. We said "hi." You walked down food court and never looked back. ☎ 7043.

Boy Toy Safety Monitor
Parade '97, you asked me if I wanted to get married as I marched by. Call, ask again. ☎ 7044.

Touch SFO
JP, we met but didn't exchange numbers. I would like to get to know you better. Please call. David. ☎ 7045.

"Paco" From Seattle To Sunset!
Last time we met at "Hole in the wall." I realized how delightful it was being with you. I never asked for your phone number. Love to see you again! ☎ 7046.

Asian Jock Cafe Flore 7/11 3PM
You: AM wearing Penn state soccer T-shirt and bjk. Adidas warm-ups w/model-like female. Me: WM, tall, blonde, sunglasses, suit and tie, and dying to talk. Cafe Flore reunion? Call. ☎ 7048.

Mark-LA On Dt Muni 7/1 4:10PM
Thanks for the warmth of your smile & the neck massage. Will you let the Catman return the favor? Dinner for 2, here or there, just as long as it's you and me! ☎ 7060.

Hot 3-Way In Cage @ Blowbuddy.
Thank you guys for a hella good time! I'm the lean blond from July 3rd. Hope to meet up again. Interested? ☎ 7101.

Taqueria Zapata 6/24 2PM
You: tall, dark hair, green plaid sport coat, white dress shirt. Me: at back table, maroon T-shirt. Would love to put a name to that handsome face. Let's talk! ☎ 7102.

Big Bear At Pride 97
Big bear at Pride '97 wearing a bra. handsome muscular GM would like to talk to you. ☎ 7109.

6/21 8 Gay Pride
6/21, Phoenix. You: WM, black tldr jacket. Me: AM, black jacket. We danced next to each other, smiled a lot. We touched on your way out. Gay Pride, Castro Muni train. you: black T-shirt, green stripe shoulder/sleeves. How about actually meeting this time? ☎ 7103.

Spike's Sunday 7/6 9:30 AM
You: handsome, wearing a red T-shirt, cap, driving a station wagon and having coffee with a friend. You spoke with him about getting a new sofa & waved at me, would like to meet. ☎ 7104.

Looking For Mr. Wordstar
SFO from MSP, 8 PM Northwest Flt 355, 6/6. You: hat, glasses, 6 ft, blue Wordstar T-shirt. We exchanged glances, but I chickened out. meet me? ☎ 7105.

City Entertainment 7/6
You: bare chested, built, baseball cap, nipple ring. Me: inside, blue tank, stunned. Oh Baby! Please call. ☎ 7106.

Stop AIDS Booth
Sunday after parade. You: Asian walking by 4 AM, looked back twice. Me: tall, WM, baseball cap, red shirt, eyes and smile for you. ☎ 7107.

Chris W. At Solstice Party
Good to see you again. Couldn't find you later to talk. Have moved. Call sometime. Robert from Sacramento. ☎ 7108.

Yellow F Market Cable Car 7/8
Tues. 11AM. You got on near Safeway/McCa, white T-shirt, tan slacks, black boots, dark eyes/hair, silver ring. Me: green cap, white T-shirt, plaid shorts, boots, blue-gray eyes. I liked your puppy-dog eyes. ☎ 7163.

4th Of July Outside Cala
You: fabulous mile getting into your white convertible. Me: cap, gray sweatshirt, our eyes glued to each other—I wanted to give you my #, call now? ☎ 7111.

Boy With New Backpack
6/28/97. You stared on BART from Oakland to Powell. I stalked you downtown. You brought backpack. Where's the Castro? What time is it? I felt nervous. Let's untie our tongues. ☎ 7112.

July 4th Caltrain 8 AM
You: green baseball hat & shirt. Me: blue shorts, white T, cap, got off at Millbrae. What book were you reading? Give me a call. ☎ 7110.

Sat 6/21 16th St. Safeway
Wow! Stomach did a 180 degree when you caught my eye. Surprised I was even able to talk. My halibut was great, did you get your S.S. crabs? Let's meet. ☎ 7162.

Joey Gay Pride Day
You: small, dark, hairy, gorgeous. Me: beard, baseball cap, blue shirt. We chatted briefly. Call if you can play.—David. ☎ 7165.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Hide And Seek
I'm 34, cute, sweet, new in town, looking for someone to laugh, love and share! Come on, invite me over for milk and cookies! ☎ 6910.

Bodybuilder Seeks Bodybuilder
GWM, 48, 5'10", 220#, competition bodybuilder, educated, attractive. You: muscular, masculine, intelligent, under 38, shorter, smooth. You won't be disappointed. ☎ 6911.

Attractive GAM Seeks GWM
26, 6', slim, fit, HIV-. Fun loving w/good heart. Seeks GWM under 32 for friendship, possible LTR. Be attractive, HIV-, clean cut, sincere and honest. No fats or fems pls. ☎ 6912.

Good Looking Latin
I'm HIV+, 26, 5'7", 169#, muscular, grad student seeking single Latinos or whites under 35 for friendship, maybe more. N/S and open-minded only. ☎ 6913.

E. Bay Red Hanks!
37, Latino HIV+ seeks E. Bay connection. Deep, spiritual, man to man, FF, WS, toys, sex, date, more? ☎ 6914.

Not Endowed Or A Greek God
But a stable, slim, smooth, fit, early 50's professional GWM and an enthusiastic bottom. We are both HIV-, NS/ND, you are 40's, 50's, any race, ready. ☎ 6915.

Persian GWM
Manly WGM/ISO monogamous LTR with boyish/manly best friend. We are authentic humans with heart/soul, HIV-, under 45, humorous, handsome. ☎ 6917.

Intimacy Intelligence Integrity
Manly WGM/ISO monogamous LTR with boyish/manly best friend. We are authentic humans with heart/soul, HIV-, under 45, humorous, handsome. ☎ 6917.

Handsome 32yo 6'2", 255#, Hairy
Dating, friendship or both. Relationship focused. Many interests. You be 32-50, HIV-. Although a plus. Be interested in more than just sex. Dog lovers a plus. ☎ 6918.

Sex Slave Companion
GWM, 53, 5'7", 140#, masculine top, NS, HIV-. You: need to feel owned, fuck, suck, bondage, NS, HIV-, between, 25-40. ☎ 6919.

Suite By Day, Naked Twister
By night. Interest very leather to polyester, movies, chocolate, bicycling, passionate sex & fun times. Stats 38, WM, 5'7", 145#, shaved head, goatee, tattooed, NS/ND/Ndr. ☎ 6920.

Romantically Sexy Artist
Gd/Asian top, 39, 5'8", 135#, blk hair, mustache, slim & smooth. Enjoying theater, music, movie, dining out, weekend & quiet intimate times with GWM, 50-60, 5'9", 5'11", 150-170#, poss LTR. ND/NS/N muscular person. Serious only. Pls call. ☎ 6921.

Sancho Panza/Hopalon/Robin?
Boysish leather top with desire to play serious fiddle to my knight/sheriff/perhero. Deserve the best? I crave masculinity—you crave loyalty, respect, submission born of love. ☎ 6922.

One Name Cocksucker!
Yep, I'm good enough to go by just one name: Alan. Period. Like Madonna. Except cocksucking is man's work. Ask your girl friend or wife to relax while I demonstrate. ☎ 7008.

GLM Seeking GWM/GLM
I'm 33 yo, 5'4", 110#, in shape Latin sex with GWM especially Italian men, 35-45 yo. I'm interested in dating and possible LTR. ☎ 7009.

Clean Cut Leather Biker Type
Me: 40 years old, 6'2", br/br, 200#, non-smoker, would like a date for Starship Troopers. You: 18-45, non-smoker, motorcycle jacket. ☎ 7010.

Looking For A Friend
GBM, 36, seeks GM, 30-36, for friendship or a relationship. Must have his act together. NS/ND. I'm not just looking for sex. ☎ 7011.

Long Term Relationship Wntd HIV-GWM, 5'6", 155#, clean shaven,
hoping to find a guy who wants to be loved not used. Br/br me/you, 25-35, clean shaven and bottom. ☎ 7012.

Nice-Looking HIV- GLM
29/6'2"/165 ISO nice-looking, thoughtful, humorous, adventurous, fit, smooth, relationship-oriented HIV-, A/L/W, under 32 to enjoy life with. I enjoy sports, dancing, movies, speaking different languages. Nihongo de dozo. ☎ 7013.

Weekday/Evenings Free?
I am tall, blonde hair, blue eyes, swimmers body, & in my 40's. I would like to meet a "friend" who is slim, young and ethnic for dates. One-nighters need not apply. Discretion assured! ☎ 7014.

European WM, Mid 30's
Tall, slim, masculine, HIV-, professional, enjoy outdoors, books, movies, romance. Seeking sincere, honest man, late 20's to early 40's, for friendship and more. ☎ 7049.

Attractive Latino
Good-looking Latino 32, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, looking for GWM for friendship or maybe more. I'm HIV-, professional, enjoy quality of life. Call me. ☎ 7050.

White Seeks Afro-American
GWM 46, HIV+, 6', 175#, average looks, mostly bottom seeks compatible, affectionate Afro-American. I like travel, museums, music, computer, friends, and other things. ☎ 7051.

Click Here For A Cute Lad...
My search engine seeks cute, cool guys, my age (35) or younger. I'm not a geek, but I play one on the web! I use a wheelchair—but everything works! I've got strength, vulnerability & charm, so let's connect! ☎ 7113.

Skgy Outdoor Adventure-SF/E Bay
GWM, 39, fit, HIV/healthy, masculine, sks M 25-45. Into hiking, cycling, rafting, day trips, triathlon. Unpretentious, spontaneous, fun. Asian or Latino A+. ☎ 7114.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to worship masc, verbal topman, over 40, w/proportion. Cauc or Asian. ☎ 7115.

Coming Out Party!
LM, 32, prof., 5'8", 147#, inexperienced, x-dresser; ISO: taller gentleman for dating/etc. Pls be HIV-, good conversationalist a+. ☎ 7116.

Intimate Non Gym Toned GWM
East Bay GWM, 36, 5'11", 190#, HIV- seeks GBM who realizes there is a world outside of the gym. Let's explore all else that life has to offer. ☎ 7117.

Sex Slave/Butler Available!
GW/slave, 44, 5'10", 250# (biker's build). Needs to serve you as your sex slave/butler. Full-time or? You call it. ☎ 7118.

Oh! Daddy, Oh! Daddy Bear
Hi, I am butch, I am a bear, looking for a hot Daddy bear with lots of hair, top only. San Mateo to San Jose. Cool if you are 40 to 50 let's do it. ☎ 7007.

New In Town
Looking for friends: me: GWM, 35, 5'7", 140#, cute, happy, sincere & shy. I enjoy tennis, San Gregorio, mountain biking, gym & doing nothing. You: nice guy with good smile. Let's talk. ☎ 6924.

HIV+ Blk 5'10" 160# Non-Prof.
Looking for thin or lean build guy with a decent waistline, between 30-45 yrs for friendship and 1 on 1 interaction. I am attracted to bald headed guys with nice butt and legs, hair is OK too!! Blond A+. ☎ 6923.

Seeking Quality GBM
GWM, 44, 6', 155#, HIV-, beard, NS, professional, affectionate, versatile (oral/anal/dildos) seeks similar GBM, HIV-, 35-50, for intimate fun, possible LTR. Facial hair a +. ☎ 7119.

Hot, J/O Or LTR-Can't Decide!
SBM, 34, built, hung, bearded, HIV-, new to SFO, ISO beefy guy, 33-40, HIV-, w/big beefy butch/thick meat for oral/vibral appreciation and ...? Humor, smoker a plus. ☎ 7120.

Wanted: WASPY Town & Country
Guy for 29, GWPM, b/bl, 5'9", 160#, 42ch/30w, boyishly handsome, traveled, educated, masculine, diverse art looking, sport. Be-GWM, 35-45, high-end, driven professional, in-shape, handsome, masculine, goal oriented, dating/LTR. ☎ 7121.

Buffed GBM 4 GWM Hunk
Muscular, masculine, attractive and intelligent, professional, intensely spirited GB "MAN" seeks sexy, high-quality, mainstream, socially confident, mature, witty, muscular GB "MAN" for fun, laughs, friendship...maybe more!! ☎ 7130.

Geek Stud For Studly Geek
Healthy, hunky, handsome, 41yo. Faux Latinate PWA, 5'10", 190 solid lbs. likes classical music, architecture, poetry and backpacking. Looking for Steve Guttenberg's queer brother (or better). # 7122.

Covered In Leather Or Uniforms
Looking for that special person, 25-35, HIV-, good-looking. I like wearing leather or uniforms when having sex. I'm financially secure and looking for you. # 7123.

Ultimately Seek LTR. Important things: honesty, maturity, responsibility, activity, energy, kink, open mind. Unimportant things: age, looks, anti-body status, wealth, fame, dick size. I'm 36, white, b/b/b, trim, pos, healthy, non-vanilla. Prefer chubs. # 7124.

Top Daddy
Needed to train this pussy boy to be your sex slave. Dad needs to be in shape. Boy stats: 37, GWM, 5'7", 140#, shaved head, goatee, mustache, tattooed. # 7125.

GWM ISO Possibility
39, 190#, 5'9", brn, grn, mustache/beard, intelligent, stable. Seeking similar gentle male, capable of commitment, 30-45 years, affectionate, furry, ND/NS, moderate alcohol okay. Want relationship, not sex-buddy. # 7126.

Leathersex and Intimacy
Spiritual Master likes romance, affection, and a fuck hole slave. handsome 41, HIV-, 5'10", 175#, br/bl, prostate seeks intelligent, h/wy proportionate single slave. Facial hair A+. Role-play, humiliation, service. # 7127.

Brasileiro
If you are into Brazilian music, romance, tender love, Latin flavor, you're the guy for me. Me: Latino in love with your country, your music and your men. # 7128.

Attractive, masculine, ISO LTR
6'1", goatee, hairy, stocky, 230#, bear-type, Italian, HIV-, 42yo, romantic, NS/ND, seek monogamous only, hairy +, Latin ++. # 7129.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Middle Easter Hairy Ass
Good-looking, g eyes, muscular, big nipples need exp. top to train him in the art of FF. # 6925.

Older Fat Guy ISO Adventure
55yo, 6', 350#, cuddly & versatile big guy w/sail & pepper beard & stache. (The fat guy with Charley the mutt at the Lone Star.) # 6926.

Need A Black Muscle Top
Clean cut with big chest, thighs. With long, thick dick & low hangers. Safe & HIV-. # 6927.

Cum On
Older men like to be fucked, 56 yrs, 6'2", 235#. Ride me, I like them big but not necessary. Get naked I will love it. E.B. # 6928.

Oriental men
Last chance to meet GWM, 160#, for love before I return to SE Asia. I guarantee Asian men-love, affection and lifelong relationship. # 6929.

10 Leather Muscle FF/Toy Frat
Interviewing for 10 top notch muscular guys hot for leather, toys, FF group action with bull grad A masculine men ready to pledge for excellent n/y/o. # 6930.

10 Man To Man Excitement
Enjoy having another guy's cock in your hand while yours is being played with? Afternoon stroking sessions w/kissing & cuddling. Discreet play-late, 40's, HIV-, average clean cut appearance, in shape, 6'. Love all cocks. # 6931.

Btm Boy/30/Party w/Men 18-35
Me: 5'11", 29" wst., good-looking, smooth, blue eyes likes to party. You: good-looking, well hung, top, have nice body & imagination. Verbal & roll play a plus. # 6932.

On Your Knees Suck Boy
WM, 40's, HIV-, average build, verbal, need regular obedient head at your SF place. You: HIV-, healthy, submissive slim or muscular, hungry expert deep throat cum lover into taking orders. # 6933.

Sexy And Horny Seeks Hot Sex
Fairly new to Bay area, and on the prowl. Me: 6', long blonde hair, blue eyes. You: blk or Latino, and you must enjoy great blow jobs in the afternoon. # 6934.

Btm Dad Sks Hung Lad
Passionate encounters. I'm 36, 6'2", 195#, b/bl, gldking, good shape. UB under 40, hung, decent shape, energetic, ready for fun. # 6935.

8 Thick Inches Wants Service
Hairy chested, hung, in-shape top wants his pole down your throat or hole. If your a sincere hot bottom who is ready to serve, give a call. # 7025.

GAM Seeks Romance
Me: 30's, 5'8", 150#, smooth and fit, big looking, moves, music. You: good-looking, sense of humor. Please under 50. # 6936.

Free Massage
Attractive, in-shape massage student needs practice. I offer one hour Swedish massage for masculine, in-shape men. Dominant or wear leather? OK. 1 1/2 hours! If you desire pampering call me. # 6937.

Sexy Italian Seeks Adventure
GWM, 40, 5'10", 190#, br (bald), br, hairy, in shape, topish in LTR. Sks GWM, 35-45, NS, fit or discreet ongoing adventure. Hairy & vers A+. # 6938.

Rough Butt Spankings Given Or
Received with hand, paddle or strap. Role-playing & fantasies! May train young & inexperienced but willing. I'm HIV-, tall & muscular. All calls returned. # 6939.

Blond Surfer Boy Bottom
Sks large board to ride. Tanned, 35yo, blond, ready to please you. IF you're hung, horny, healthy, happy. Surf's up. # 6940.

Bottom Seeks Top
GWM, 47, 5'8", 130#, 8" cut, seeks well-hung top for lots of hot, cumy fun. # 6941.

Oversexed Bottom
Well-hung, 47, GWM, HIV+, seeks top for hot action! # 6942.

Top Foreigners
I'm 27, yo, black man with a warm mouth and butt. I'll serve young men w/facial hair for daytime fun. Lr btm to blond & leather A+. Let me start the day on my knees. # 7033.

Washboard Abs Seeks Similar
Bl WM, 35, 5'8", seeks guy who is A+Am or any race, likes movies, has slim hard hairless body, and thinks anal is oving, and kissing is underrated. SF or E. Bay. # 7016.

Show Off And Pose
Your built body and/or extremely hairy body while this attractive WM blows you. Be masculine, uninhibited. I am 39, good body, great mouth. Your place. Pose and let's get nasty. # 7017.

White Guy Wants Black Guy
For mutual oral fun. I'm a 6'1", 185#, in shape, masculine, and hung 47 yo of Scandinavian descent seeking GWM, 20-50 yo, in shape, orally inclined. # 7019.

Model Porn Star Or Cute Guy
Needed by successful handsome top for prolonged bondage and S&M sessions. UB good-looking, young, hung and a serious bottom or switch. Safe, discreet and well paid for your time. # 7020.

Blindfolded—I'm Ready
39, bnd/blu, 5'11", 150#, HIV+. Beginner ISO top or tops for experiences in light BD, SM, CBT, WS, leather and toys. Verbal, a plus. # 7021.

Wkday Matinee JO Discreet Fun
Average guy, late 40's, seeking buddy for cock fondling & ball play, cuddling, giving each others red sensations of pleasure. Building to explosion of cum. Xtra pleasure for natural UC cocks. # 7022.

More Than A Hefty Mouthful?
Hot your dick, your load! If you shoot a lot, I wanna swallow it all. Thirst persisting, your bladder serves same faucet. Two hot fluids. Both fresh/refreshing stuff. Cheers! # 7023.

For A Swell Time
8'4", up top and hungry stud bottom. Both 30's, good-looking and fit, seek one or more similar studs for sweaty sessions. # 7024.

Do You Need It Bad?
Two hot, handsome, in shape guys. One top, one bottom, well hung, very hungry, want to make it good. UB: similar, under 40, and want it now. # 7026.

I Want To Ride You Hard!
8 Inches of hard meat on a handsome, in shape, hairy chest, goateed stud. You are a serious bottom to 45 who wants to be filled. # 7027.

Wanted: Big Firm Butt
Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big. Needs Cau men, well built w/hug hairy butt to eat and fuck. # 7028.

Hung Huge?
GWM, 28, 5'10", 160#, seeks horse hung guys with 10" + or more and XXX thick for daytime worship. Call me and get the kind of attention a big dick deserves. If your seriously hung. # 7029.

Super Hung Black Top Man, 44
Needs a husky, mature, Hispanic bottom man. others welcome if husky, mature, sincere, available, easy to reach. Mustache A+. Open wide. # 7030.

Hot Hungry Ass-Eager To Please
Masc men. Mature, muscular bottom in Oakland seeks hung tops who love tits & ass & enjoy fucking smaller guys. GWM, 5'3", 130#, shaved head, healthy, HIV+, need fuck buddies. # 7031.

Sexy, Bulging Biceps
Hot top fuck, 37, 6'1", 185#, in shape gym hard body wants thin to muscular guys, 20-45, with very defined arms who likes to service dick, flex, and get ass fucked. # 7032.

Come For Me?
GWM, 40yrs, 5'8", 150 in shape #. Mustache, mod hairy, br/br, sexy smiling. Harley driving masculine man. ISO GWM masculine furry man w/facial hair for daytime fun. Lr btm to blond & leather A+. Let me start the day on my knees. # 7033.

Son Or/And Slave Wanted
By attr mature GWM, 73, 5'8", 165. You are 18-40, gldking, submissive, gay or bi-curious with a need to serve a strict but loving, caring Daddy-Master. # 7052.

Bl Loves To Play
Bi WM, 57, 170#, 6" thick, loves to learn seeks well endowed to service, play, avail days, even. Close In Penn. location, My place. # 7053.

Hot Group Action
Hot looking, 28 year old, white male, 6', 155#, gym-toned body, top seeks hot guys, 25-35, into safe 3-way or group action. # 7054.

Fuck My But...
Horny Italian, 44, 6', 190#, w/mst & goatee seeking all studs who wanna unload in a hot beefy butt. Late night sex in Castro, 12-5AM, Fri-Mon. # 7055.

Blond Stud In Sonoma County
Fun, exciting, easy going guy near Santa Rosa is looking for you if you are under 21, smooth and not fat. Call Tim today. # 7056.

Grt-lookin' Smart Nice Available
Youthful 36yo, masc, regular guy prof., 5'11", 155#, br/br, athletically ver-safe-tile, hry chested ISO smoother, shorter(?), HIV-, in-shape, any race, NS co-adventurer. Pluses: 30's, unaddicted, playful, clean, regular, fit, hung? # 7057.

Hooteville Trolley
This way, please, for the fabled Oral Tunnel, presently under consideration for Eighth Wonder status... Your travel guide today: GWM, bottomless throat, 6'10"/40's. Big grin, big heart, decent-sized brain. # 7131.

Summer Planting
Hot btm has 2 fertile fields for large plows. I'm 36, 6'2", 195#, b/blu, tanned, deep throat & tight buns. UR: hot, horny, passionate, hung, in shape, under 40. In SF. # 7132.

Midnight To SAM Sex
Hot Italian stud, 44, 6', 190#, mst/goatee, looking for hot beefy studs to fuck & rim & suck. Castro location. Dark rooms & hot holes now available! # 7133.

Muscle Bottom Wanted
Masculine muscle boy needed with hot mouth and bubble butt. Smooth skin blacks & Asians OK. # 7134.

Silk And Nylons
Horny GWM Daddy ISO GWM bottom in panties, panty-hose etc. UB: 50 yr+, bottom in bed & equal partner out. Me: 40's & hung. We: enjoy role-playing. # 7135.

This Hole's For You
If you are a serious fucker, ht/wt prop 7 you want a hot, wet & "natural" hole to fuck call now. Sexy GWM, lean, trim, masc & ready. # 7136.

Like To Suck A Nice Cock
GWM, 180, 6', NS/ND, like suck 6" dick & get fucked. Age/race no factor, watch movies. # 7137.

Bottom Dad
GWM, 42, 5'6", 135#, HIV-, slim & smooth, likes to get fucked, have own place & car and am available evs and weekends. N/A/D/S. # 7138.

Two For Three Special!!
One big, hard rod, one tight, bubble butt, and one deep throat available from 2 hot blondes if you've got two or three of the same. UB under 40, nice shape and ready to work it. Call now! # 7139.

Live Outside San Francisco
I want to meet men who live outside the city to visit. I'm seeking new adventures, new environment, new friends. I'm muscular, masculine, 44, white. You be muscular, masculine, under 50, white. # 7140.

Wanted: Sex And Romance
Good-looking HIV+, GWM, 40, 6', 190#, with short beard and hair and white. I'm seeking good-looking positives for fun and more. Looking for men 20-35. All nationalities welcome. NS. # 7141.

Are You Tired After Work Let's Have Sex. Nice legs, tight ass. Redwood city area. hot Latino, 27 years. Please call me. # 7142.

Luv To Give Head!
GWM, 5'10", 160#, br/br, cin shaven, fun, friendly. Luv to play with w/anal, oral, and disk. You: Youse trim, GWM/LA. Reg. service possible. # 7143.

Adult Arcade, Gay Theaters Bar?
Handsome 40yr old semi-public seeks adventures in semi-public places with dominate males. Stripped naked while servicing you and others of your choice. Humiliation, Bondage, rape and more. # 7144.

Hairy Butts Drive Me Nuts!
Sleazy, dirty, and w/rim beard (Brad Pitt type) seeks trim bear N/S. For safe play, frontage, JO, and... # 7145.

Big Dick Btm Boys Turn Me On
You need deep extended fucking and multiple orgasms from a great top. UB: 25-40, GWM/GLM, good shape, with hot hole. Me: GWM, 40yo, 5'6", 145#, good shape, dominant. # 7146.

Handsome Young Men Wanted
If you are handsome, muscular, straight acting, 21-27, want the best blow job by handsome young GM, please call. Please be white or Latino. # 7147.

Hooded Beauties
Love U/C cocks! love to play w/your foreskin. Let me play with your skin and put a smile on your face. Clean cut, safe, discreet, HIV-w/ince cut cock & big shaved balls. # 7148.

Slow to Get Hard After Surgery
GWM, 46, 210#, 5'11", b/br, ISO Italian HIV-GWM for afternoon sex, any age, NS/ND, good kisser A+. # 7150.

Just Shut-Up And Ride!
WM, 30, 5'10", 200 lb, blonde hair, blue eyes, muscle stud (48" ch, 31" w, 18" arm) wants good-looking masculine men to pump me full of squirt—anytime. # 7151.

Hot Man
Seeks sizzling boy, WM, 5'11", 165#, wants fun with Asian/Latino, 25-35, slim, must speak fluent English. Diners, movies, dancing, travel, like cats, 60-70's music. NS/ND, light drinker OK. # 7152.

Over The Knee Spanking
With hand, belt, paddle, and/or switch. Limits respected, novices welcome. Me: attrac, GWM, 46, 6'5", 250#, football player's build. You: attrac, GWM or Asian, 18-35, slim, smooth/moderate body hair, nice buns. # 7149.

Mature GM Wanted
By GWM, HIV-, small in size but makes up for it in other ways. I'm energetic, submissive bottom, adventurous. I like all nationalities, want an experienced well endowed man to turn me on. # 7153.

Liking 4 Men Of All Colors 4 Sex
GWM, 44 years young (looks 30's), blue/brown, 6', 148#, slim-build, masculine, goatee, top & HIV- seeking men of all colors, 21-50 for play-mates and hot times. # 7164.

FETISHES

Medical Top Sought
By btm, I have operating room, table, enema gear, restraints, cath, NG, tubes, sounds, rubber & more. HIV-, NS, 5'9", 178#, clean cut, 40's, very discreet. # 6943.

Novice Slave Seeks Master
Muscular, 34, handsome, clean cut, seeks experienced Master looking for the real thing. Prefer bodybuilder with military, police background. Who can mold me into the slave I was meant to be. # 6944.

Raunch & Scat Buddies
Masculine WM, 35, into the sight & sound of other masc. guys pissing & dumping. Private or public bathrooms or outdoors action. # 6945.

ISO Servicing
GWM, top, 5'11", 165, smooth, brn/hzl, 33, ISO total bottom, clean, GWM/GLM, 18-40's, into dt feedings, bareback poundings, evenings in SF. # 6946.

Novice Wrestler
GWM, 31, 6'1", 170#, boyish looks, average body, turned on by wrestling and rough housing, playful or nasty. You are hopefully near my age and size, any race. # 7034.

ISO Blondes
30+ yo, GWM ISO blondes who would enjoy having their large, clean, feet massaged. Call, you won't be disappointed. # 7035.

Daytime Asshole-Eater
"Get your asshole eaten by a pro." # 7036.

Sadistic Top
Looking for masochist bottom into beatings, stompings & pain. # 7037.

Novice Boy ISO Experienced Dad
This handsome and muscular 30 year old boy is seeking an experienced muscular leather Dad/sir, 30-45, for training in sane S&M, B&D, obedience & self-esteem vitality. # 7038.

Dog Training
The other night I watched a dog training scene at a 15 play party and now I fantasize about being trained as a dog. # 7039.

Squat Your Hairy Crack Over My Hairy face. I'm 6'2", 196#, 50+. You are thin, WM/LM, under 45yo with clean asshole. You must be thin. Days or early evenings. My place. # 7040.

Bondage For Asians
WM, late 40's, will strip, tie you up, play with your cock/balls/tits and make you cum. Muscular a plus. # 7041.

GM w/Toe Ring Loves Doing It Barefoot. Lifelong craving for recp-oral foot licking, smelling, caressing, naked body closeness. JO, fantasies. Dirty solo OK. Uninhibited. E.B. masculine, tan, good-looking GWM, 5'9", 140#, HIV- seeks foot buddy and friend. # 7058.

Hot Butch Scat Brat
Seeks shit fit from very handsome men's hard shots. I'm 5'9", 140#, young 41, short blond flat top, goatee, HIV-, uniforms, leather, jocks, levis, tattoos, experienced. # 7059.

Toilet Top Wanted
Stud muscled ranch bottom seeks to service stud muscled ranch top. Tops only need respond, yellow or brown hanky & nasty A+. # 7154.

Seeking Chinese Master
Handsome Chinese muscle boy, 34, great body, seeking rough dominant, sleazy Chinese master in his 30's. I need discipline, abuse, humiliation, & pain and will do anything for you, sir! Anything! # 7155.

Scat Water Sports
Young looking 55, GWM, seeks handsome guy, 22-45, for scat and water sports. No fats or fems. # 7156.

Like To Play Doctor?
Do physical exams, etc? Helps if you have any medical knowledge, instruments, etc., or if you're a skinny, scientist type with glasses, me: ntrn, GWM, in good shape, 50. # 7157.

Need A Hot Lick
Truly an asshole eater first, w/rim seat. Me: Hsp, hot, very attr, 5'11", 165#, 40. You: hot, in shape, to 45 w/puckering hole & lips. # 7158.

COUPLES

Oral Playmate Wanted
Uptown GWM couple, 40's, professionals, HIV-, seeks GWM, 30-58, professional, cut, HIV-, to service and get serviced from my hung partner as I bang his pipes. # 7159.

Bun Hounds Seek Wild Bottom
Two GWM horns, one 42, 6', 150#, and one 47, 5'7", 140#, looking for long-endurance hungry bottom who likes getting pounded. Toys OK. Adventure awaits. # 7160.

GWM 40's, GAM 30's
Masc and sexy seeking Asian boy toy for 3 way or more. Safe sex, 18 to 35. # 7161.

OTHER

All Dressed Up Nowhere To Go
1st timer in drag. This GAM, 34, 220#, 5'8", happily married is looking 4 discreet GM or cross dressers, any race, to hang out w/ private parties, or clubs. pls be sincere. Thx. # 6947.

Older, Virile, Bachelor
Seeks sexy, virgin boys to fuck. I like married men especially. Santa Rosa & SF. # 6948.

Tennis
Mid-Peninsula area, doubles or singles, over 30, intermediate level, day or evening, private court. # 6949.

Erotic Photography & Video
We're the artists & the models, interests include: safe, sane, bondage, S&M. Limits respected, by cute GAM 39, young face, slender, gym-toned, seeks slim or muscular, NS, under 45, having fun and sharing adventure. For fun. # 6950.

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Out There

◀ page 31

In 1992, author **Wallace Stegner** and composer **Stephen Sondheim** also declined the NEA's award.

Please die

Our good friends at GLAAD have passed on to us a pathetic article that appeared in the July 15 issue of *Weekly World News*, a sorry little tabloid published somewhere in the vast backwater that is Florida. "How To Tell If Your Baby Is Gay" screams the rancorous headline, run over a series of photos of terrified children who look like they've just witnessed the disemboweling of **Captain Kangaroo**. The article poses the absurd question, "Is your bruiser of a baby destined to become a lisping limp-wristed sissy? Will that gurgling little girl in powder and pink lace grow up to be a hairy-legged, Harley-revving lesbian?"

To help shed light on this most erudite of matters, the authors consulted "expert" **Dr. LeMont Proctor**, who theorizes that queer baby boys "give girl babies the cold shoulder" and scream and throw "hissy fits at the sound of country music, but coo contentedly when serenaded with chamber music, show tunes, or anything by **Liberace**." Gay baby girls have voices that "boom rather than chirp," and seem "unduly enthralled by the roar of trucks, the rumblings of a train, or the revving of a motorcycle."

We've encountered **dead birds** with more intelligence than the editors of *WWN*. We urge readers to send comments to: **Sal Ivone**,

Managing Editor, *Weekly World News*, 600 S. East Coast Avenue, Lantana, FL 33462.



Catherine Deneuve

French therapy

Out There's fave actress **Catherine Deneuve** has an uncharacteristically warm chit-chat with **Lydia Marcus** in the July issue of *Lesbian News*. Although **Missy D** doesn't discuss that little brouhaha over a lesbian publisher's appropriation of her name for her mag, she does make some interesting comments about things queer. Responding to the question, "What's the general attitude in France toward gays?" Deneuve says, "I have the impres-

sion that it's not accepted, but in a different way than in the U.S. It's not accepted, but people can still mix. French people are very individual — when they know a person as an individual, they will accept them more. But in the U.S., I think they're not accepted on any level, and mostly because of morality. Here, sex is so important, and the refusal of sex is so prevalent."

Cher humanized

In a *New York Times* interview last week, **Chastity Bono** revealed that "she is glad her mother reacted badly" to her announcement a few years back that she's a lesbian. At the time, **Cher** threw Chastity out of the house, muttering unkind things about how she didn't want to be the mother of a lesbian. "People can more easily relate to it," Chastity said. "They can say, 'Well, even Cher had a hard time.'"

Chastity also expressed regret about dropping out of college back in 1987. "I was never terribly academically inclined. Education was never terribly stressed in my house. Neither one of my parents ever graduated from high school." No surprise there, dear.

Dracula's widow?

Last week's queer history lesson concerned **James Audubon**, bird painter, naturalist, and potential mega-queen. This week's lesson is about **Dracula**, or to be more precise, his apparently homo-sex-obsessed creator, **Bram Stoker**.

In **Barbara Belford's** *A Biography of the Author of Dracula*, the author examines the relationship between **Stoker** and **Henry Irving**, a well-known 19th-century



But where's Henry?

English actor with whom **Stoker** became hopelessly enthralled shortly after meeting him at the age of 29. **Stoker's** wife, **Florence**, didn't much like their relationship, which grew increasingly tight as the years went by. In fact, writes **Belford**, **Bram** was almost inseparable from the actor after they met, becoming his friend, manager, and greatest fan. It was in this obsessive atmosphere of toady-like devotion that **Stoker** gathered the inspiration to write *Dracula*. **Belford** argues that close scrutiny of this curious work reveals the mirror image of the author's unrealized affections for **Irving**, a classic psychoanalytic reading in which the story's mesmeric Count of Transylvania and

his devoted **Renfield** are stand-ins for **Irving** and **Stoker**.

For the commonweal

Finally, people have been asking us about the origins of that clever Goodwill ad we've all seen running for several months now between flicks at the **Castro Theatre**. The 30-second spot, which shows a man discarding his masculine clothes while a voice-over says, "If you don't need them, we do," is the brainchild of SF advertising firm **Anderson & Lembke**. The agency created the ad as part of a pro bono campaign for Goodwill that includes radio spots, print ads, and outdoor advertising. Free of charge? Now that's what we call good will. ▼

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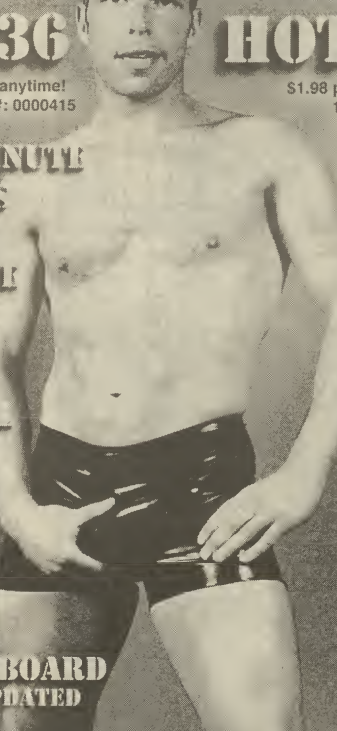
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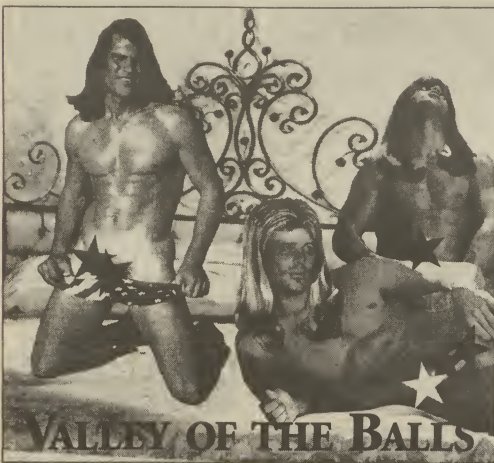
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heights/6027/brett.html to see pics

24HR BEAR STUD/SLAVE
Ready to serve you. 232-1723 Tim

EASTBAY TIGER
TRIM, TONED, THICK, TOP, TAME
Thong tan, smooth, cut, cute, 27, br/br
Tired of time in bars, money on drinks.
Stay home, relax & have a PPPerfect
evening. \$85 510-218-9012

SLAVE FOR SALE
Young, hung, masculine slave
needs to serve your pleasure.
Obedient, great body, adventurous.
David 527-8124

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30, 6'2", 200#, br hair, blue eyes, 7.5c,
cleancut, discr, Austin (510) 595-0838

HUNG NASTY DAD
6'4", 40's, 195, 7.5X6 Stache/Goatee
Gives Intense Erotic 2hr Massage to
Naughty Boys all areas studnt disc
\$35 in \$50 out Pgr 707-944-6575
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Slender, sensual, willing
SEXY BLOND BOY TREAT
Affectionate and smart. Do yourself
a favor. Call Sebastian 440-3983

A Unique Massage Experience by tall
Texas charmer 6'6" 195# lean toned
Attractive Attnetive Affectionate
60/in 80/out w/table complete
WAYNE 252-7443

Top stud! 34, smooth, lean, defined
Plus, I give the best massage: In/Out
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Hot Bodybuilder, 6'2", 200 lb, 28yo
Well Hung, 17"A, 46"C, 32"W, Very
Goodlooking (408) 788-7508 Christian

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57" 150# 20/21yo 414-0132/219-7331

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Musc. gymnast built 170 lb. Stallion.
Thick 8 1/2" cut tool. Low hangers,
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some. oral OK, tan lines, 29" wst, huge
cock, 30yrs. Discreet \$75 In/Out. For
appt call Hans in SF 415-629-0621

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for Frenzied Fun
5' 9", 140lbs.
Smooth, 9" thick
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Smooth, tan and versatile
Call C.S. (415) 303-1415

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Buffed, hardbodied, thick & well
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5'8", 145 lb, muscular, uncult
Pg Marcos 270-1262

Tall buffed Dad age 45, 6'4", 192
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Friendly clean safe masculine top
10.5"X7.5"
Limited hrs thru 8/4-calls returned
and appts 7pm-11pm every day.
Leave voice mail or page 224-9382

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Loves all sports! Blond, blue eyes,
handsome but boyish, full lips, thin
and smooth CK model type top or
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Luxor 415-303-5370

9 CUT THICK
Frat boy. Muscle Jock.
Brett 224-5384

Versatile cute white boy 6', 145#, 7X6.
Tell me what you need. Page 210-0287

Little guy with something to prove.
Jackhammer no kink. Page 791-0941

ELECTRICITY
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CUTE AS FK**
25yo, swimmer's build, hung
Top, slender physique,
Boyishly handsome
In/Out Joey 752-3844 cell

Puerto Rican manSFonly Antonio 908-9867

HOT SEXY TRASHY
Boy Toy
23yo Blond clean shave
Smooth swim build
Rick 24hr 415-605-9582

SEXY & SPIRITUAL 21YO
For dinner conversation or massage.
\$100 hr Pager 415-220-1765 Matt
Or 22yo, 6ft, Stud 220-1765 Eric
\$100 or both-In/Out \$250/hr

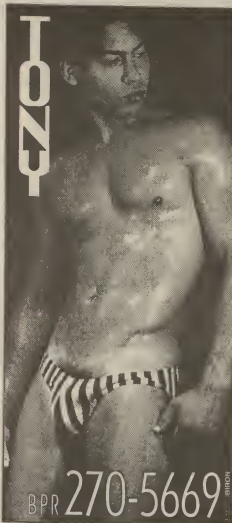
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Blissful wkday afternoons for you.
Sexy, tneer, olive sk. Br/bl, 5'10",
165 lbs. Cory Pg 998-1395 Out

Tattooed Paul, 63, spansk lean only
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PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS



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baseball biceps, hard buffed body with a powertool ready for action. Pgr 207-6786

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6ft, slim, smooth, sexy stud
Bondage to buttplay top
Explore my well stocked playroom
B/D T/T C/B/T F/F-Most sane scenes OK
Leather, Rubber, Boots, Electricity
Hot Healthy Handsome \$100
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MR. BEAUTIFUL 10"

39yr old, 6ft, 230 lbs, hot, hairy, hds. Hungry mouth, throat, ready to serve. Football player type bottom but completely versatile, plus just a really nice guy. \$70.00 out only. Call Chase at 415/273-4619, leave msg. with best time to call back.
Thanks...Grrrrr

TEXAS-BRED BEAR IS BACK TO SERVE!!!!

30yr old, 6ft, 230 lbs, hot, hairy, hds. Hungry mouth, throat, ready to serve. Football player type bottom but completely versatile, plus just a really nice guy. \$70.00 out only. Call Chase at 415/273-4619, leave msg. with best time to call back.
Thanks...Grrrrr

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Top, friendly & personable, 5'11", 155#, Goodlooking, Out Only
Antonio 415-908-6775 \$90+

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Young boy does pow wow Shamanism on your body. Cute hard body. Out calls only. 313-4850

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Horse Hung 9.5" Thick! Daniel 908-6704

Pornstar Matt Converse, tall, lean, smooth, hung. J/O Strip \$50 552-7224

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Handsome, Hung 9" • 337-4364

10"X6" CUT

Handsome, masc, Gey/Ital, 6', 185 lbs. 42c, 32w, tanned swimmer's build, brown hair, brown eyes, lt chest hair Daniel pgr (415) 538-9587, VM (707) 939-6963

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24yo, 6'1", 185#, blond hair, hazel eyes and a smooth chest ANDERS 245-5540

STRAIGHT, MUSCULAR,

Rugged-looking, blue-collar worker, Hairy, tattooed, mature married man, Available now! Call Buck 406-7259!

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5'10", 145 lbs. cute, clean riveting, Sexy boy. 8". Smooth body.
TROY 790-2167

Picture at www.lovinings.com



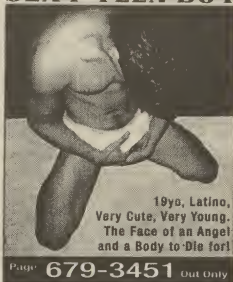
Masculine
Muscular
Handsome
Well Hung
Discreet
Athletic

page
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Hotel calls
mature men
welcome

SEXY TEEN BOY



19yo, Latino,
Very Cute, Very Young.
The Face of an Angel
and a Body to Die for!

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Size 11 Feet-hot! \$40/60 Bpr 834-8170

Horny Asian Boy

Hot, eager to satisfy 582-2889 24 hrs
Heavenly Hands-Sensual massaahhge!
Tim+Castro+28yo+Complete! 487-0278

Tall (6'2") Slender Smooth Healthy CUTE YOUNG BOY 9.5"!

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Attractive, aggressive, mature and experienced! 39 y/o, 5'8", 155#, hung, cut & fun. Boyish good looks expert, skilled top. Basic to S&M+leather+spanking+FF+toys+buttplay+Master/slave+Friendly & Easy going or rough. Novices or advanced. Sane. Page Brian 415-605-8804. Out. Late.

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Latin Longhair, Hung, Day Rate
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Hot Asian Page 708-0432

HOT TOUGH TOP

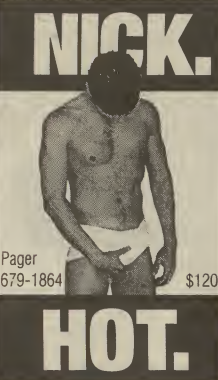
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F/F, FETISH, ALL
FANTASIES. 38yo, 6'1",
210#, MARINE LOOKING,
BROWN HAIR, FLAT TOP,
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7" UNCUT. BEGINNER
TO ? HAVE EQUIPMENT
AND PLAYSPACE.

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CLEAN-CUT, ATHLETIC
BUILT GOODLOOKING-
SATISFYING 24 HRS.

JOE (415) 431-MALE
IN-OUT \$85-\$95



NICK.

Page
679-1864

HOT.

Naked Runner 51yo \$40 415-347-2468

CZECH STUDENT HOT 19

Good looking Good time & massage 24
Hours, \$120 an hour pg 313-1552

FF Top Boy w/sm Hands 4 Fantasy &
Relief+French/Aztec 26 5'7" Slim
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SLIM TALL COLLEGIATE LOOK

24, 6'1", 140, 29"w, 8"
Hard Natural Build, Friendly
Shaved in all the right places.
Educated, discreet, model face/body
Page Mitch: 202-1130

Sox, shoes, sox, etc. Brent-995-9593

26yo hung 10X7 tall masc vry gdllng
Avail 24hrs very discreet 708-9563

DINO DOES IT!!!

With his 9X7 power tool. Skilled top play
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Tall, lean, handsome w/8"
Curved to fit your throat
Long endurance. 764-6627

CUTE 23 YR OLD

5'8", 140 lbs, smooth, clean cut
Call Chad at 241-9381

Southern Hospitality-Blond/blue,
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10 INCHES BY 6

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5'11"/hiary 47c/16a/31w/185/hung/

Big hands/Beard/stache 861-1671

All Buttplay scenes

HANDSOME DAD

HAIRY MASCULINE CHASE

24 HRS PAGE 280-1651

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WASP, good looks, ripped body

Expensive. Steve. 615-2409

ALL AMERICAN MALE

Masculine, Handsome, Hairy, Hung

6'4", 195#, Blond/Blue, Friendly

Page Adam 24 Hours 207-8089

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★ 50" CHEST 18" ARMS ★
★ PGR# 415-605-2433 ★



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Bodybuilder,
220lbs,6'1",52ch,21"A,
26 years.
New in town from
Paris, France
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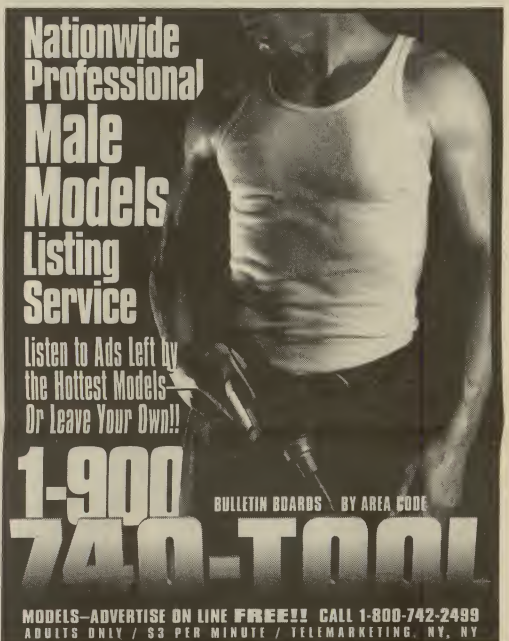
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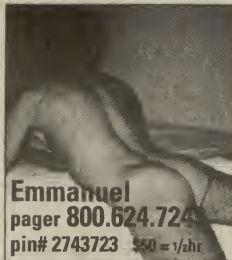
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Hung 9" and the Hottest

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pin# 2743723 \$50 = 1/2hr

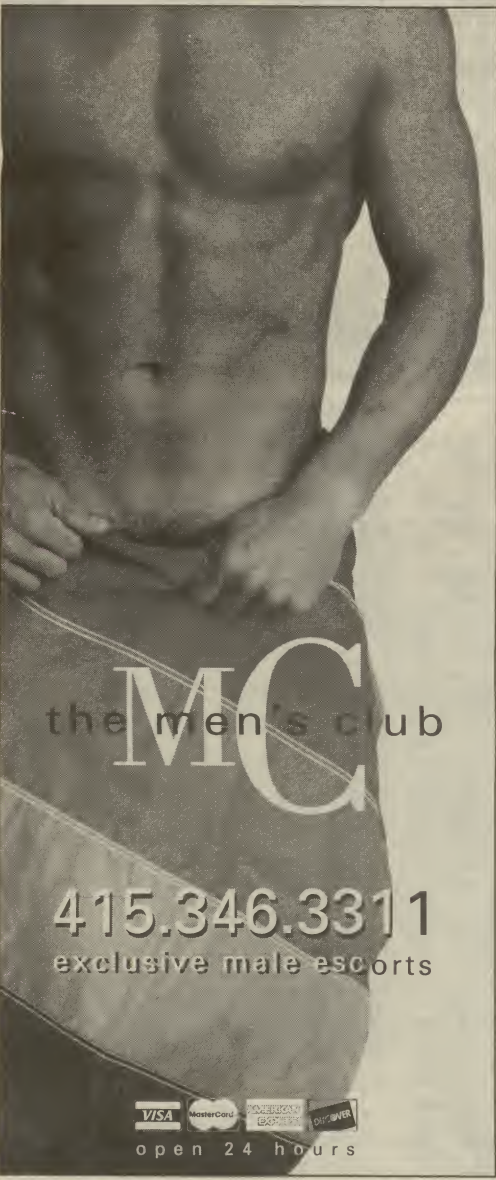

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HOT, HAIRY, DOMINANT
Experienced, Most Scenes
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FULLY STOCKED PRIVATE PLAYROOM

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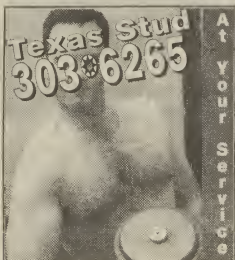



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the men's club

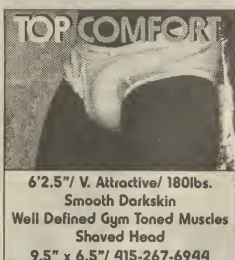
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HOT LEATHER 3-WAY
2 Hot Porn Models into Leather Fantasies
Top 38yo 6'1" 210# flat top, mustache
7" uncult.
Bottom 31yo 5'9" 160# vest, beard,
8" cut.
Have Play space & Equipment
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Been A Bad Boy?
Experienced top wants you!
F.F., Spanking, Ropes, Properly
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23, Cute, Blonde, College Boy, 224-4849
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Rockhard globes of Buttl Hungry•
•Hole• Hot, Sexy 28, 24Hr 328-5304

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Dean: 20, 6', 165#, br/blue, clean-cut,
deep bottom, hard 8", steel ass.
Watch me pump it up? #415-605-3376

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Need a helping hand? Slow• Easy• Firm
I'm great with beginners thru advanced.
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28yrs, 5'10", 150#, shaved head
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Nuts and a sweet bubble butt.
Friendly outgoing personality.
Hot oral give and take.
\$80/In \$100/Out Andy 708-5388

Italian Stud, Black hair, Brn eyes,
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Cute guy 5'5", 135#, nice chest & arms,
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VERY MUSCULAR
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6'3", 250lb Stud Damion 679-1684

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Handsome Hung 8 and Thick
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Clean-cut Grad Student,
5'10", 155, Brown/Blue,
Smooth, Lean, Muscular Body
Very Cute, Very Versatile.
Call Jason 24 hrs 541-5002

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-long, & slow-my specialty,
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
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Double or Triple Pleasure
call Lon 788-0380

270★2719 SUPERHOT
22ys old Cuban/Italian
Beautiful Hard
Defined Body
5'11"★10 uncult★175lbs
Butch Tri Athlete
Hot Top or Bottom

24 YR OLD BLK STUD
Masculine Slim Built with Handsome
Boyish looks friendly, clean and
Discreet. First class, hung top.
Out only \$70
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GREEK GOD
6', 150 lbs. Thick jet-black hair.
Long eyelashes, defined lean toned
chest, beautiful sexy, yummy ass,
twin mounds of pleasure! Affection-
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model looks serious, generous, dis-
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MIKE, 30, 5'10" 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut Muscle Hunk
In/Out-\$100(415) 863-8932
Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 • JIM 267-1817

SUBMISSIVE SLAVE
Enjoy your fantasy of owning a Slave
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Serve you sir. 346-4677

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Passionate, beautiful eyes, great body
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Fulfill your fantasy. Pager 207-6117

Young, great staying power 986-8848
VIETNAMESE STUD

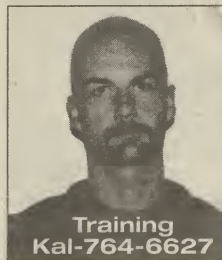
Filthy, demanding, verbal
KINK MERCENARY
Bondage, raunch, SM, FF...
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EXTREMELY HANDSOME COLLEGE STUDENT
Masculine clean cut & yes versatile
French/Italian, dk thick hair, full lips
Very Hot! Hung & tight. Out only.
Bradly 201-1319

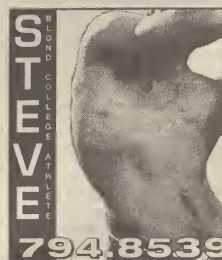
PARTY GUY "9"
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LEATHER/BONDAGE
Tough dominant top, 38yo, 6'1", 210#,
7" uncult, blue eyes, flat top, mustache,
military looking. Into S/M, W/S, C+BT,
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Have playspace and equipment/toys.
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WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS
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Downtown man in dress sox & loafers
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Muscle Daddy, 47-into Bondage WS En-
largement work 4 fit men pg 538-9588

COLLEGE JOCK
25yo, Extremely Handsome, Rock Hard
5'9", 160, Br/Gr, 7 1/2" cut, Muscle
Ass, Deep Throat 415-739-7312

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Hot S/M stud who is rough, raw, ready.
Verbal top, long lasting fun. A ball busting
8.5 inches. Hardcore stud top \$90 in/out
Drug free welcome sisco 415-861-SEX

CHEW ON THIS
Hot/hung bi-guy likes to kick back.
Page 449-8007

Leather, Rubber, Uniform, Fetish
HUNG BIG UNCUT
800-807-0241 ANYTIME

ITALIAN UNCUT HANDSOME BOY
522-2925

CATHERS • 241-0567

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Handsome butch top guy. Tall, mus-
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Erotic nude massage for aggressive men
by goodlooking white guy 28 yo, 5'7",
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BIG DK DISCOUNT**

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10" X 6" UNCUT
Big Fat Tool 487-9566 pgr 678-1005

Handsome Black Top Out Only 273-1814

1 VERY HOT PUNK
23yo. Sexy skinny boy, showoff.
626-9306

PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS



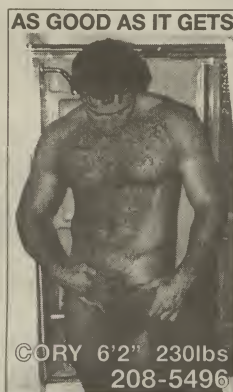
GREGORY

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AS GOOD AS IT GETS

CORY 6'2" 230lbs
208-5496



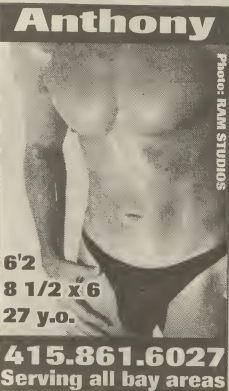
RUSTY

9x6
FALCON MODEL
(415) 280-8260



CLARK
270-0919

5'9"
160lb

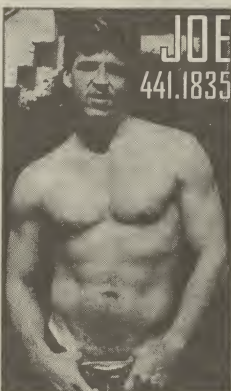


Anthony

Photo: RAM STUDIOS

6'2"
8 1/2 x 6
27 y.o.

415.861.6027
Serving all bay areas



JOE
441.1835

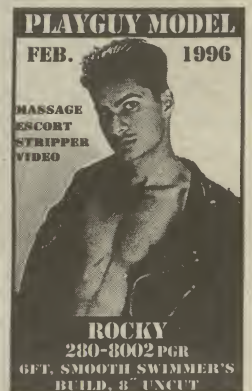


HANDSOME.
MASCULINE.
BUILT.
PERIOD.

180.
STEVE
615.2409



to speak with a
BAR sales rep.
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FEB. 1996

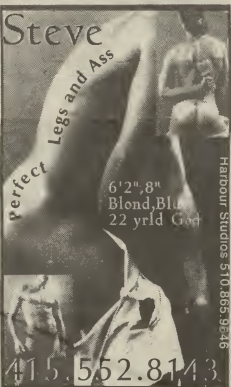
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ROCKY
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6'FT. SMOOTH SWIMMER'S
BUILD. 3" UNCUT



LATINOS
TOPS +
BOTTOM

Page + Voice Mail
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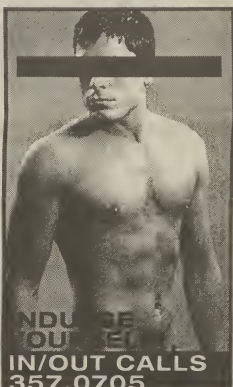


Steve
Perfect Legs and Ass

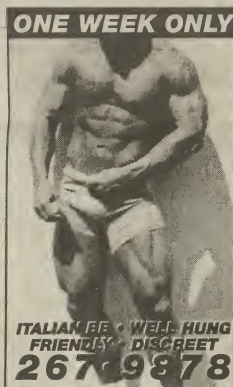
6'2", 8"
Blond, Blue
22 yrd G

Harbour Studios 510 865 9246

415.552.8143




**INDUCE
OUT
IN/OUT CALLS**
357.0705



ONE WEEK ONLY

ITALIAN/EE • WELL HUNG
FRIENDLY • DISCREET
267-9878



ANDRE 597-3613

BAY AREA REPORTER

PERSONALS ORDER FORM

DEADLINE

NOON on MONDAY. Payment must accompany ad. No ads taken over the telephone. If you have a question, call 415.861.5019. Display advertising rates available upon request.

RATES

First line, Regular 4.50
All subsequent lines 3.00
CAPS double price
BOLD double price
X-BOLD triple price

Indicate
Type Style
Here ▼

X-Bold Stops Here ▼

Bold Stops Here ▼

Caps Stop Here ▼

Regular Stops Here ▼

PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash
☐ Personal Check
☐ Money Order
☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard

Minimum \$10 charge
on Visa and MasterCard.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

DELIVER OR
MAIL WITH
PAYMENT TO:

BAY AREA
REPORTER
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco,
CA 94103

WANT DICK, SEE DICK,
MEET DICK...

**GET
DICK!**

THE SLUT LINE—
TOTALLY UNCENSORED, ONE-TO-ONE
LIVE BACKROOM, INSTANT REPLY
BULLETIN BOARD FOR MEN WANTING
SEX NOW & PHOTO SWAPPING
TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE GETTING

PLAY LONGER ON

THE SLUT LINE

IT'S CHEAP & DIRTY

1-900-844-5656

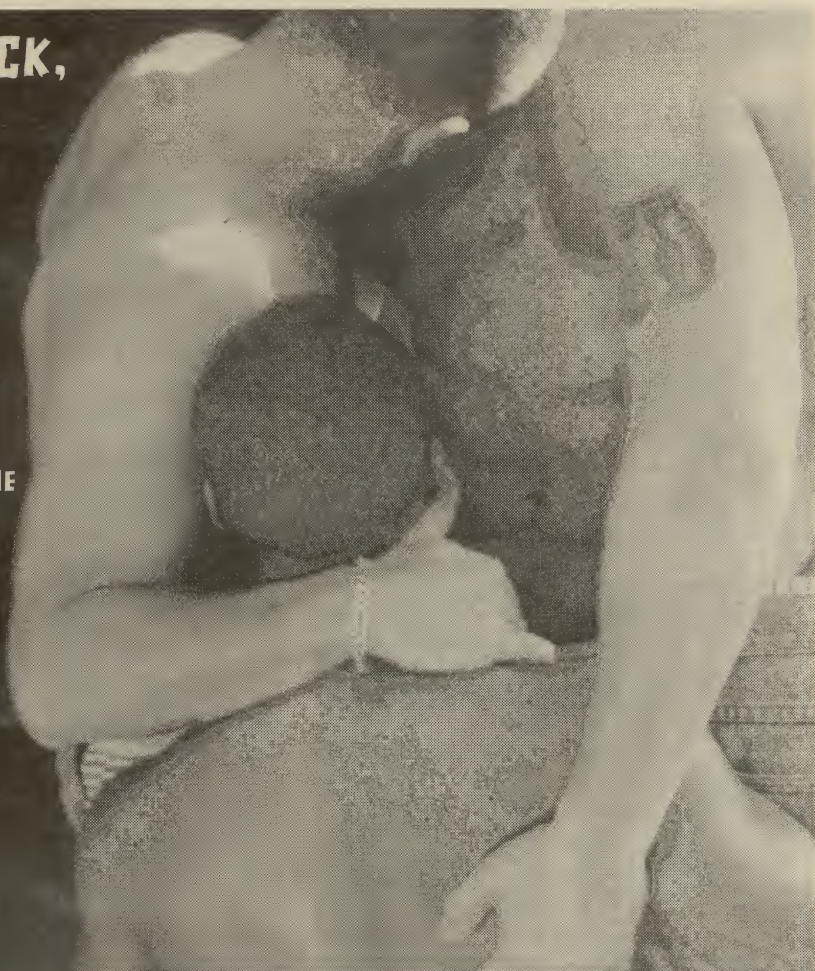
\$249 FOR 48 HOURS

FREE REGULAR & ESCORT LISTINGS
CALL 415-398-1616 USE PIN #95601



WWW.MASTERVU.COM

ADULTS ONLY/GAY OWNED AND OPERATED/CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS/212-688-4934 10AM-10PM



You don't need
a photo of some **plastic, overdone**
muscle clone to get you **hot.**

What you need is... **RAUNCHY MASTERS**
PIG BOTTOMS **SUBMISSIVE SLAVES**
HAIRY DADDIES **SWEATY JOCKS**
MUSCLE BOTTOMS **ROUGH TRADE**
SERVICE BOYS **AGGRESSIVE TOPS**
TOTAL SLUTS *What are you waiting for?*

Hot, live one-to-one & bulletin boards
24 hours for \$2.40—only 10¢ per hour!

H A R D C O R E

1-900-505-3333

FREE LISTINGS... call (415) 398-2600 & enter PIN #93602



Adults only
Gay owned & operated
Charter Communications
(212) 688-4934

SEX ON THE EDGE